Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 195 | TUESDAY OCTOBER 1, 2013 | www.saipantribune.com | 75¢

$200K OK'd for Rota casino commission, $49.50K for programs. PAGE 3
Honoring the pillars of public education in the CNMI. PAGE 5

GOT A NEWS TIP?
TEL: 235-6397
235-2440
FAX: 235-3740
EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

OPINION METER
This week's poll:
Many say the CNMI economy is now improving. Do you feel it?
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

ASIA

A car bomb rips through Peshawar's oldest bazaar, killing 40 people. ➤ PAGE 15

WORLD

Islamic extremists attack a Nigerian college, gunning down dozens of students. ➤ PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE

"Breaking Bad " fans could be forgiven for saying that the finale held no surprises. ➤ PAGE 20

Fund settlement accord OK'd

BY FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood gave final approval yesterday to the global settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the NMI Retirement Fund.

Tydingco-Gatewood issued the approval after finding the settlement agreement to be "fair, reasonable and adequate" during a hearing that lasted over five hours. Tinian and Rota participated in the hearing via video teleconference.

"It is ordered. So it is over!" the beaming judge said shortly after she announced her rulings.

Under the settlement agreement, the CNMI government agrees to make annual payments that will enable the settlement fund to at least 75 percent of class members' benefits.

With the final approval, all Fund assets will be transferred and assigned as assets of the settlement fund and will be administered by the newly appointed trustee, attorney Joyce Tang of the Civille & Tang law firm of Guam.

The Fund will transfer $44.61 million to the CNMI government so it can pay the balance of the refund of contributions of Fund members who are not yet receiv-

See FUND on Page 4

'We can now move on'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Governor presses lawmakers anew for revenue-generating bills

The Inos administration and lawmakers welcomed yesterday the U.S. District Court's final approval of an NMI Retirement Fund global settlement deal but they all said there's still much work ahead, including finding millions more in new revenues to meet the deal's requirements and restore the 25 percent deferred retirees' pension, among other things.

This comes barely a year after the Fund filed for bankruptcy, making it the first public pension agency to do so on U.S. soil. A court later junked the bankruptcy filing.

"With the court's final approval of

See MOVE ON on Page 4

VIEW OF THE LAGOON ➤

Photo shows three of five U.S. maritime prepositioning ships that are anchored off Saipan's coast on Saturday. The U.S. ships have a year-round presence on Saipan, peaking at five or more at times, affirming the Marianas' strategic importance to the U.S. military's activities in the region. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

NMASA takes over sports complex today

With today's start of the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the Oleai Sports Complex will now transition from a government-run facility into a sports complex managed by the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association.

NMASA president Michael White said the Commonwealth's umbrella sports organization is ready to take over the facility, which encompasses the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field, Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Softball Field, and the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

"We're as ready as we can be given the fact that our budget was approved very late and we have a very inadequate budget. There also really wasn't much coordination as there should've been," he said.

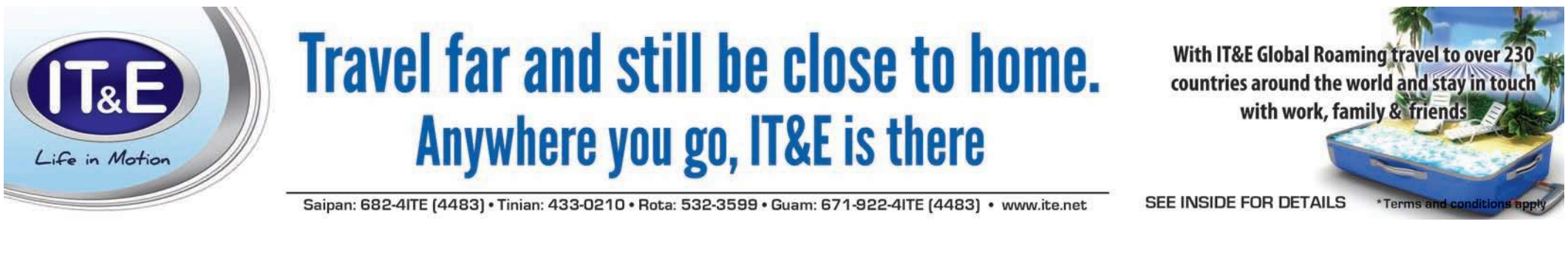
NMASA was earmarked $193,228 for fiscal year 2014.

"We've appointed Tony Rogolofoi as the person in charge of the gym and he will take care of everything that needs to be done for the transition."

Sadly, White said, none of the current staff of the Division of Sports and Recreation would transition to NMASA.

"They're all civil service. You can't blame them for not wanting to leave the government and go into essentially an employer where they can be fired without notice at all if they don't perform. Their

See NMASA on Page 4


IT&E
Life in Motion
Travel far and still be close to home.
Anywhere you go, IT&E is there
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
With IT&E Global Roaming travel to over 230 countries around the world and stay in touch with work, family & friends
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS
*Terms and conditions apply

Local

October is Behavioral Health Month

MARK RABAGO
Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, center, pose with Community Guidance Center staff and other stakeholders after a proclamation signing declaring October Behavioral Health Month yesterday at the Governor's Office.

When Community Guidance Center director Reina Saures asked who in the room is stressed during yesterday's proclamation signing of October as Behavioral Health Month, Gov. Eloy S. Inos gamely held up both hands.

Inos' gesture underscored that everyone—even the islands' chief executive—is not immune to stress and to Saures and her staff at CDC, the start of the fiscal year is as good as any to celebrate behavioral health and promote safety and mental well-being in the community.

"Behavioral health is a vital part of health in general. It's not just physical health that is important. It's also emotional and mental health, so we have to make sure to take care of our whole health," said Saures during yesterday's proclamation signing at the Governor Office conference room.

The proclamation quotes a 2011 NMI Behavioral Health Survey commissioned by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., which showed that adult use of alcohol in the CNMI is at 41 percent.

The 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey administered by the CNMI Public School System reports that 41.4 percent of high school students had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days, 30.6 percent used marijuana one or more times in the past 30 days, and 18.1 percent seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months.

The same proclamation reads that the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health reports that 2.6 million people received specialty treatment for a substance abuse disorder and more than 31.3 million adults aged 18 and older received services related to mental health.

Project Brabu CEO Clyde Norita said their office has $500,000 in available grants for groups that campaign against underage drinking. He said nine of the 30 applicants have so far been approved. ***(Mark Rabago)***

. . . and Nat'l Dental Hygiene Month

By LORI I. SERNA, RDH, MEd
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

This month is the time we take to celebrate the profession of dental hygiene, which is celebrating its 100th birthday this year. This year the Seventh-Day Adventist Dental Clinic will be joining hundreds of offices in the United States in reaching out and sharing important information on how to take care of our teeth.

Dental cavities continue to be a health problem throughout the islands. It is our goal to decrease the amount of dental cavities as well as increase healthy oral habits by sharing information with the entire community.

Dental hygienists from the SDA Dental Clinic will be doing oral health presentations at Garapan, Oleai, San Antonio, San Vicente, and GTC elementary schools. We are looking forward to sharing the information and seeing the smiles on their faces. The children really enjoy our visits and receiving new toothbrushes.

As well as presentations, there will be weekly articles in the paper addressing such issues as dental care and diabetes, the use of chewing gum for dental health, and others. As usual SDA Dental Clinic will be offering free exams for people who wish to have a visual exam with a dentist. Please call our office for an appointment at 234-6323.

The Seventh-Say Adventist Clinic is committed to improving the oral health of the people of the CNMI. Look for healthy tips on the local billboard at Microl intersection. This year's theme is "Healthy Habits are Easier than You Think."

Celebrate Arbor Day

(from the Latin arbor, meaning tree)

A holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees.

Originated in Nebraska City, Nebraska, United States by J. Sterling Morton on April 10, 1872; an estimated one million trees were planted that day.

Today, many countries observe a similar holiday

Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) – October 1

Philippines - June 5 | New Zealand - June 25 | South Korea - April 5 | Taiwan - March 12 | Australia - last Sunday of July | Guam - 2nd Tuesday of October | Kenya - April 21 | Brazil - September 21 | Luxembourg - November | China - March 12 | Egypt - January 15 | Iran - March 4 | Japan - May 4 | Republic of Macedonia - November | Mexico - 2nd Thursday of July | Uganda - March 24 | United States - last Friday of April | Venezuela - last Sunday of May

Tan Holdings

Tan Holdings Going Green

$200K OK'd for Rota casino commission, $49.50K for programs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota lawmakers passed yesterday six local bills that included a $200,000 appropriation for the Rota Casino Gaming Commission, $49,500 in poker license fees to be used for Rota government and private programs, and a Rota resident identification card program.

The six local bills now head to Gov. Eloy S. Inos for action.

» 6 local bills including ID, dog control programs head to governor

The three other local bills that passed would amend the Rota Dog Control Act, repeal the law establishing a Medical Assistance Board for Rota, and amend a local law to remove reserved fund for retroactive payment as the fiscal year 2014 law already gives $200,000 for such a purpose.

The Rota Legislative Delegation chaired by Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Saipan) passed each of the local bills by a vote of 3-0.

Sen. Juan M. Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) was absent from the delegation on his last day as a member of the 18th Senate yesterday. Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said he will be sending the governor a certificate of vacancy in the Senate today.

Besides Santos, the two other delegation members at the session were vice chair and Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) and Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota).

The first measure to pass at 3:06pm was Hocog's Senate Local Bill 18-1 that dissolves the Medical Assistance Board on Rota.

This was followed, at 3:19pm, by the passage of Hocog's SLB 18-2, to remove a provision that reserves half of poker license fee increases for retroactive salary payments. Santos, Hocog and Taimanao approved the bill as $200,000 is already reserved for this purpose in the 2014 budget law.

After a long discussion, the delegation also passed at 3:39pm Santos' House Local Bill 18-17 Draft 1, establishing a Rota Resident Identification Card Program.

Hocog's amendments to the local bill included raising the fee for a new or renewal ID card from the original $5 to $10, as well as adding a U.S. Social Security card to the list of documents that an applicant can show or provide while applying for an ID card.

A minute later or at 3:40pm, the delegation also passed Santos' HLB 18-23, amending the Rota Dog Control Act to include a $5 fine if dog owners do not register their dogs within five days from receipt of a warning from the Rota Municipal Council, among other things.

$200,000 mostly for commissioners' salaries

Rota lawmakers also passed at 3:51pm Santos' HLB 18-28, appropriating $200,000 for the Rota Casino Gaming Commission's operations and activities for fiscal year 2013.

Most or $163,520.14 of this amount is appropriated for the

See CASINO on Next Page

CNMI wary of possible fed govt shutdown

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

While the CNMI government passed its $123.4 million budget ahead of today's start of fiscal year 2014, the federal government is on the brink of a shutdown for the first time in nearly two decades as Congress runs out of time and option to keep it open. The CNMI is now weighing the possible impacts.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said if any federal government shutdown is prolonged, the CNMI as recipient of federal funds could feel the impact.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the Republicans' continuing resolution delaying President Barack Obama's signature 2010 healthcare law would strip the CNMI and other U.S. territories of new Medicaid funding.

The new law provides $109 million in additional Medicaid funding for the CNMI, "money that is helping to keep our hospital open," Sablan said.

Inos said the CNMI government does not have reserve funds to cushion the loss of federal funds if a shutdown drags on.

As of yesterday, the CNMI has yet to weigh the full brunt on the local government.

"You can never tell. We don't know how long the shutdown period will be. If it's only a few days, maybe not [impacted]… It's all a matter of the grants being affected or not," the governor said in an interview.

Inos said the CNMI was affected by the federal sequestration, a series of national spending cuts, "but that's all planned out already."

If Congress and Obama fail to reach a deal, a U.S. government shutdown will begin at 12:01am Tuesday in the mainland.

House Republicans' version of a spending plan would delay Obamacare for a year and repeal its tax on medical devices. But Obama and Democratic leaders want a simple bill that funds federal agencies without dismantling any part of Obamacare.

The governor believes any shutdown won't be for an extended period of time "because a good 60 percent of federal government operations would be affected by that."

"There's really not a whole lot we can do to prepare. Because I'm talking about agencies, programs that are funded by federal funds. Obviously we don't have the local resources to cushion any void in federal funding so it is our wish that the [federal] budget will be approved as soon as possible so that we can all get back on running the programs," he said.

Inos added he has yet to ascertain the programs that will be affected.

"There will be some grants that probably will be affected but most of the grants pretty much have been granted, awarded prior years," he added.

The CNMI government also went through a shutdown in 2010 when the House and Senate were deadlocked on a new budget, sending over a thousand government employees home and many public offices closed for over a week.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP13-GOV-092

LANDFILL EQUIPMENT FOR TINIAN AND ROTA

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude Hofschneider are soliciting competitive sealed proposals according to the requirements of N.M.I.A.C. § 70-30.3-210 from qualified vendors to provide equipment for use at landfills on the Islands of Tinian and Rota. Proposals are to include costs associated with equipment, training, extended warranty, delivery, maintenance, as identified in specifications. Equipment proposed must be similar to landfill equipment identified in the scope of work and be of a type commonly used in landfill operations in the United States. The Commonwealth is relying on the expertise of vendors in the selection of most appropriate equipment for use in the proposed landfill operations. The specific pieces of equipment sought are the following:

1. Two tracked bulldozers for direct use in landfill operations;
2. Two wheeled loaders for movement of material at landfills; and
3. Two wheeled excavators for creation of landfill cover.

Although equipment is to be used primarily in landfill operations, they will also be used in assorted activities of municipal operations, thus the Commonwealth is seeking flexibility in the type of equipment and attachments proposed. Submitted proposals will be evaluated on a possible 100 points based on the following factors:

50 points – price;
50 points – experience of equipment in similar operations in United States locations and flexibility of equipment package in meeting needs of the islands of Tinian and Rota.

All proposers will be subject to a responsibility determination as identified in NMIAC § 70-30.3-245 ("Responsibility Determination") which will evaluate whether the vendor has experience and resources for the required financing, warranty, and maintenance services. Proposals from parties who fail to meet the requirements of the Responsibility Determination will not be considered. Award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.

Proposals should address each item identified in the evaluation structure and must follow the proposal structure as identified in the proposal packet. Proposal packets will be available on September 24, 2013 (ChST) at Office of Capital Improvement - Juan A. Sablan Administration Building - Capitol Hill, Saipan. Proposals must pay particular attention to the preferred identified equipment specification and use this as a guide in submission of proposals.

All questions regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2013 (ChST) to the Office of Capital Improvement via fax to (670) 664-2408. Prospective bidders bear responsibility for proper transmission and receipt of submitted questions. Response to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

The selected vendor will be required to comply with all applicable Commonwealth and Federal laws. All proposals must be sealed and marked RFP13-GOV-092 Landfill Equipment for Tinian and Rota Proposal on the forms provided and include an original and four copies and must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Thursday, October 24, 2013 (ChST) to:

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Marianas Procurement & Supply - Lower Base
P.O. Box 510008 CK
aipan, MP 96950

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Proposers bear all risk concerning delivery. For further information, contact the Office of Capital Improvement (670) 664-2375. All proposals become the property of the Commonwealth.

Eloy S. Inos, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and ProgrammableTechnology
- Custom Communication Devices

- **Friday, October 4th 8:30am - 4:00pm**
- **Saturday, October 5th 9:00am - 1:00pm**

at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan

Ross Hearing Aids

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: ross@guamcell.net

Inos would 'ideally' wait for high court decision on Senate vacancy

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that "ideally," he would like to wait for a Supreme Court decision on a certified question before appointing a replacement for Juan M. Ayuyu, whose last day as a member of the 18th Senate was yesterday.

"I would have to consult with the Senate on that. Ideally, I would probably just wait for the Supreme Court decision," he told reporters.

Ayuyu, 48, faces 33 to 41 months in prison in connection with smuggling endangered fruit bats from Rota to Saipan and obstruction of justice. He is awaiting sentencing in November.

Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, in a March 15, 2013, legal opinion, said if Ayuyu is convicted and a vacancy in the Senate exists, that vacancy will be filled by Joey Anthony Quitugua.

Just the same, the governor is considering a court decision on a certified question as to who will fill the Senate vacancy once Ayuyu's resignation takes effect.

The court answer to that certified question would resolve the issue of whether the governor should appoint the next vote getter among Rota senatorial candidates in the 2009 or 2012 elections.

Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) said that, as chairman of the Rules and Procedures Committee, he would recommend to the governor to make an immediate appointment.

"A vacancy is a vacancy and there's already a legal opinion from the AG about it," Hocog said.

But first, Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) has to certify a vacancy in the Senate, which he is poised to do today.

NMASA

From Page 1

civil service jobs are protected and the government is obligated to find jobs for them somewhere else. So I can't blame them for not wanting to stay. We will be hiring our own staff."

Joe Mettao, who has worked for DSR the past 15 years, said he would miss working for the division. He said his fondest memory is being involved with children who are active in sports.

White said NMASA is awaiting the Legislature's approval of House Bill 18-11 that would revamp the entire governing structure of NMASA and rename it the Northern Marianas Sports Association.

"It would set it up to the same lines as the U.S. Olympic Committee as set up by the U.S. Congress."

Among other things, the bill would allow NMASA to raise funds currently not available to them, he said.

"The budget that the Legislature passed was seriously inadequate. I can't blame them as money is scarce. We need the authority to raise our own funds for the benefit of the public that uses the Oleai Sports Complex."

An idea being floated around is allowing NMASA to sell alcoholic beverages at the Oleai Sports Complex.

"One of the things that we're talking about—and no decision has been made—is whether or not we're going to permit the sale of alcohol and beverage in the premises. We all know that in a government-managed facility we can't do that but we're going to look and see if we have the authority and whether we want to do that. It's a potential big new source of revenue for us and we can obtain sponsorships that we don't have the ability to do now." ***(Mark Rabago)***

FUND

From Page 1

ing benefits and have elected to withdraw from the Fund. The Fund had paid the CNMI government $10 million upon the court's preliminary approval last Aug. 6 so the government can pay a portion of the refunds of contributions.

The judge did not rule on Johnson's counsels' petition for attorneys' fees and costs. That tab ranges in amount from a minimum of $40 million to a maximum of $60 million.

Instead, Johnson's counsels and the counsel for the CNMI government were directed to talk about the fees issue with Hawaii bankruptcy judge Robert Faris.

Tydingco-Gatewood, however, approved paying Johnson $7,500 as a service award or incentive in recognition of her time and effort in bringing and prosecuting this matter as class representative.

Tydingco-Gatewood also discharged the Civille & Tang law firm and its representative, Joseph Razzano, as Fund trustee *ad litem*.

The judge said the 16 opt-outs—those who asked to be excluded from the settlement class by the Sept. 20, 2013 deadline—are no longer members of the settlement class.

Tydingco-Gatewood approved the consent judgment against the CNMI government in favor of the settlement fund in the amount of $779 million, the equivalent of the actuarial present value of benefits related to the settlement class members.

All 12 pending motions related to the case are now considered moot.

Senate President Ralph Torres and several other lawmakers were present. Sen. Ray Yumul and Reps. Roman Benavente, Ramon Tebuteb, and Christopher Leon Guerrero addressed the court to express concerns about those who opted out and other issues. Other lawmakers present were Reps. Teresita Santos, Janet Maratita, Antonio Agulto, and Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero.

One of Johnson's lawyers, Margery Bronster, cited the extremely low number of objections and opt-outs, saying this indicates that the vast majority of class members want to participate in the settlement.

Bronster said the issue of attorneys' fees and costs should be taken separately by the court or may be delayed as this should not have an impact on the final approval of the settlement.

Tydingco-Gatewood agreed with Bronster, adding that the Fund will not pay the fees.

Assistant attorney general Reena Patel, counsel for the CNMI government, joined in Johnson's motion for final approval of the settlement deal.

Johnson, who spoke briefly on the phone, thanked Tydingco-Gatewood, Judge Faris, Gov. Eloy Inos, and attorneys involved in the case, for reaching the settlement.

"It's been a long, long journey. It's a great day for the CNMI!" Johnson said.

After the judge announced the discharge of Razanno, he said he is based in Guam but "it's truly an honor" to work for the CNMI.

"It was a great pleasure to serve the people in the CNMI," Razzano said.

On attorney's fees, Tydingco-Gatewood said the billings submission of Bronster Hoshibata, one of the counsels for Johnson, is detailed and contained recitations.

She contrasted this with the billings of Johnson's other counsel, attorney Bruce Jorgensen, saying his submission is very incomprehensible and that she could not understand it.

The judge said she agreed with the Office of the Attorney General's objection upon a review of Jorgensen's filing.

Tydingco-Gatewood said there is also an issue that Jorgensen is an inactive member of the defined benefit plan and is therefore a member of the class.

Jorgensen explained that he is not a class member as he never received Fund benefits. He said he worked for only six months and that it was a sole-source contract.

Fund acting administrator Pangelinan insisted that Jorgensen is considered a member of the class.

With respect to Johnson's other counsel, Timothy Lord, the judge said there is an issue of untimely filing and that Johnson actually terminated him in 2012.

On Johnson's local counsel, attorney Stephen Woodruff, Tydingco-Gatewood said there was no record to support the billings, and that there is also an issue about his ability to practice in the CNMI and failure to pay CNMI Bar Association fees.

Woodruff explained that he has a computer problem, and that the issue of his law practice is still pending in the CNMI Supreme Court. He said he is authorized to practice in federal court.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she is pretty sure that she is going to approve the billings of Bronster Hoshibata law firm.

The judge ordered Johnson's counsels to get together and work out with the comments of the Office of the Attorney General or else she would set a full-blown hearing on the issue.

Johnson's counsels and the OAG were ordered to come before Faris to settle their attorneys' fees and costs.

Tydingco-Gatewood told Jorgensen to better re-do his billings as they gave her a headache.

She also told Jorgensen to talk to Lord.

Tydingco-Gatewood believes that, as there is not much to do anymore in the class action, there is no need to have more lawyers.

CASINO

From Page 3

salaries of past and present commissioners and executive director. Salaries owed range from $6,923.07 to $41,225.93.

Based on the bill, Ephrem S. Taimanao is owed the most at $41,225.93, followed by current chair Laura I. Manglona with $39,015.23.

Also owed are Abelina T. Mendiola, $23,014.40; Kelvin O. Hocog, $17,884.60; Vicente M. Atalig, $15,225.95; Alfredo Antolin, $11,000; Diego M. Songao, $9,230.96; and Justin S. Manglona, $6,923.07.

The bill also appropriates $26,000 for the Torres Brothers Law Firm; $6,000 for operation; $1,479.86 for a digital camera and recorder; and $3,000 for communication.

Poker fees

At 4:02pm, Rota lawmakers also passed Santos' HLB 18-31, D1 appropriating $49,500 from poker license fees on Rota for patients' monthly subsistence allowance, different programs and activities on the island.

Of the total amount, $30,900 is for the Department of Finance to provide monthly subsistence for Rota residents undergoing dialysis and treatment for terminal illness outside Rota.

Another $10,000 is for the Rota mayor's contingency fund for the annual fiestas.

Rota lawmakers also approved $5,000 for the Rota Municipal Council for fly traps and other programs.

They also approved $1,000 for Grace Christian Academy and $1,000 for Eskuelan San Francisco De Borja School. The remaining $1,600 is for the Rota Annual Fishing Derby.

MOVE ON

From Page 1

the settlement agreement, the administration, along with the other parties in this case can now move on with a deep sense of assurance for the members of the class," press secretary Angel Demapan said when asked for the administration's comment.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood granted final approval yesterday of the global settlement agreement in retiree Betty Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the Fund.

'More than fair'

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), one of the 16 Fund members who opted out of the settlement class, said yesterday that Tydingco-Gatewood "was more than fair" in her decision.

"She was receptive of all statements and concerns raised. I am happy about the court's decision and for the class members affected by her decision. I wish all parties well, including those who opted in or opted out," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Speaking as a retiree, Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) said he'd rather receive "some than none at all" in guaranteed pension.

Still, Leon Guerrero believes that the court will not approve Johnson's lawyers' proposed fees of over $40 million. That tab is opposed by lawmakers, the Inos administration, and the Fund.

He said he will continue to help ensure that the 16 who opted out of the class will still be protected. He said a minimum of $272,000 is needed for these opt-outs.

Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) and Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) separately said the government can now move on to the next phase, which is to find more ways to generate revenues to meet its obligations.

"We now know where we really stand," Hocog said. "And with only 16 who opted out, a small number, that would make it easier for us to help them too. They should not lose hope."

Santos and Hocog also oppose the proposed Johnson attorneys' fees. The judge will rule on this matter at a later date.

The Inos administration said it will assess administrative matters now that the settlement has been made final. These include seeking to clearly define the role of the settlement trustee, the Fund and its staff, and the administration of benefits for the few who elected to opt out of the class settlement.

"Governor Inos notes that this was a drawn out and sometimes painful process for everyone, but the government, in agreeing to this settlement, did so in good faith and in recognition that the agreement was as fair as it would get given the circumstances," the press secretary said.

New revenues needed

The Inos administration vows to continue engaging the Legislature to work on revenue-generating measures to help the government meet its obligations pursuant to the settlement.

"And above all else, to reach a point where we can start restoring the 25 percent reduction in benefits for retirees," Demapan added.

The governor, in an interview hours before the court's final approval, said he's not aware of anything that would not allow the settlement agreement to move forward.

He said the government needs "at least $12 million more" this fiscal year to meet the requirements of the settlement agreement.

This is on top of the $20 million that's appropriated for the Fund under the fiscal year 2014 budget. This is because the government has to pump $25 million into the settlement fund in fiscal year 2014 and continue paying into Group Health and Life Insurance some $7 million to $9 million.

These figures still do not include the money that the government needs to raise to pay Johnson's attorneys, as well as the restoration of the 25-percent pension cut.

"We need $12 million to make it up; whether that would be the supplemental budget is a different question. Supplemental budget is going to be a function of the additional resources that we identify. But we do need $12 million. I hope that we get more," Inos told reporters after he and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider jointly signed five proclamations yesterday morning.

A revenue-generating bill allowing video lottery in the CNMI is now up for governor's action, while a conference committee has recommended passage of a compromise electronic gaming bill.

Inos said he supports a video lottery bill in principle but he is still reviewing the bill that the Legislature sent to him. He also has yet to see the conference committee report on the electronic gaming bill.

When asked whether he thinks these revenue-generating bills are enough, the governor said, "We still need more."

Inos said almost the same thing when asked whether the Saipan casino gambling bill pending at the Senate is still needed.

"We still need more revenue generation. It's not just to satisfy current requirements. Next year, we're going to face the same funding requirement, if not more—$2 million more because the minimum guaranteed payment would be $27 million [next year] as opposed to $25 million this year," he said.

Honoring the pillars of public education in the CNMI

Individuals and government agencies and instrumentalities will be honored today in a joint Board of Education-Public School System ceremony that will mark their significant contributions in the movement of public education in the Commonwealth.

The last 25 years saw both an unending and uneven march toward transition and growth of public education—a storied past that was succeeded by a new era of innovation and modernization into what it is today: the Public School System.

A monthlong celebration will begin today marking the 25 years of the establishment of public education in the CNMI through the creation of the Board of Education with the enactment of Public Law 6-10 on Oct. 25, 1988. The BOE is the governing and policymaking body of PSS.

This is a historic-first awards ceremony that will highlight the distinguished contributions of two former governors, the Executive Branch, the Legislature, the Judiciary, past members of the Board of Education, and commissioners of education/education superintendents, and different island municipalities. These individuals, agencies, and instrumentalities have placed their entire weight and focus on public education's success.

With the theme, "25 Years of Public Education: Embracing Differences, Enlightening Minds and Inspiring Greatness," today's ceremony will begin with the signing of a proclamation that will also declare October as Education Month.

The event will be held at the state BOE's conference room in Susupe.

Storied past

From temporary structures made of wooden frames, screened windows, and corrugated metal siding and roofing, and from a handful of schools in existence at that time—Chalan Kanoa (now WSR Elementary School) and Hopwood Jr. High School, both in 1947; Oleai in 1958; San Antonio in 1966, Marianas High School in 1969, and Koblerville in 1986—public education today is a changed landscape with 20 public school campuses spread throughout Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Growth and progress paved the way for the replacement of these composite structures. Concrete walls, louvered windows and shingle roof structures slowly gave way to larger, solid, and modern facilities.

The CNMI's public education's has a wealth of storied struggles, but there is little documentation of its past and what is available is kept as archival evidence at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Collection.

Known evidence cites the year from 1947 to 1988 when public education in the Northern Marianas began transitioning.

The departure of the U.S. Naval government and the Central Intelligence Agency covert operation from the Marianas in 1961 ushered in an era of change under the Department of the Interior's stewardship. Social and political development would begin in earnest under the United Nations-mandated Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, which included the Northern Mariana Islands.

According to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Collection, the CNMI became a United States-administered U.N. strategic trusteeship following the Second World War. This arrangement was named the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands or TTPI.

It was in the 1970s when the districts began voting to end the trustee relationship with the U.S. In 1986 the U.S. notified the U.N. that its obligations were fulfilled. The U.N. officially dissolved the Trust Territory in 1990.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands became a self-governing district.

Autonomy in public education began.

Movement

With the CNMI's cessation from the U.N. trusteeship administration, the first "recorded" concrete movement in public education was in 1983 when Public Law 3-43 was enacted. The act "initially" established the Public School System or the "Education Act of 1983."

P.L. 3-43 was to provide for an education system in the Northern Marianas: it created the Public School System, the Board of Education/Board of Regents, and the Northern Marianas College.

Three years later, a new law was enacted. Signed on Oct. 25, 1988, Public Law 6-10 was a repealer act to P.L. 3-43.

It was P.L. 6-10 that led to the expansion, growth, and progress of what is now known as the CNMI Public School System.

The law was crafted to conform to a constitutional amendment that "creates the BOE" and "provides for the election of five voting members on a nonpartisan basis" and "the appointment of three non-voting ex-officio members" to the board.

In essence, the law established the autonomy of the Public School System.

Twenty-five years ago this month, several individuals, agencies, and instrumentalities have distinguished themselves in advocating for compulsory and quality free education in the Commonwealth.

At 9am today, BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan will lead public education stakeholders in honoring these individuals and organization who helped conceive today's public education system. ***(PSS)***

High surf advisory out

The Homeland Security and Emergency warned yesterday that a large north swell generated a few days ago by a strong cold front east of Japan continues to produce hazardous surf along north facing shores of the Marianas.

A high surf advisory remains in effect until 6am today, Tuesday, along north facing reefs. The agency is strongly advising the general public and inexperienced mariners to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along north facing reefs as rip currents are life threatening. ***(PR)***

The U.S. Navy INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE in the Mariana Islands Training and Testing EIS/OEIS

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the continuation of military readiness training and testing activities conducted within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) Study Area. The MITT EIS/OEIS is the reevaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities reviewed in the Mariana Islands Range Complex EIS/OEIS, which the Navy completed with community input in 2010.

The Navy requests your input!

The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review and comment from Sept. 13, 2013, to Nov. 12, 2013.

Submit Written Comments To:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific
Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Submit comments online at **www.MITT-EIS.com**.

All comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 12, 2013, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST), for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS.

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS 5 to 8 p.m.
Arrive anytime during the open house.

Guam
Monday, Oct. 7, 2013
University of Guam, Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building, Anthony Leon Guerrero Multi-Purpose Room 129
Mangilao, Guam 96923

Saipan
Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013
Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe
Saipan, MP 96950

Tinian
Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2013
Tinian High School, Cafeteria
San Jose Village
Tinian, MP 96952

Rota
Thursday, Oct. 10, 2013
Sinapalo Elementary School, Cafeteria
Sinapalo I
Rota, MP 96951

Visit the following public libraries or www.MITT-EIS.com to view the document: University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Tinian Public Library or the Rota Public Library.

Travel far and still be close to home.
Anywhere you go, IT&E is there
CDMA
GSM
verizon
T-Mobile
KDDI
SoftBank
SMART
LIVE MORE
Globe
Palau National Communications Corporation (PNCC)
With IT&E Global Roaming travel to over 230 countries around the world and stay in touch with work, family & friends
IT&E
Life in Motion
More Roaming Destinations than ANY Wireless Carrier in the Marianas
SAIPAN: 682-4ITE (4483) • TINIAN: 433-0210
ROTA: 532-3599 • GUAM: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • WWW.ITE.NET
*Some conditions apply • Rates subject to change.
New Store Hours • Customer Service Center (Chalan Laulau) Monday to Friday • 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Lawyer insists lawmaker qualified to give expert opinion

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Ramon K. Quichocho is insisting that former police officer and now Rep. Christopher George D. Leon Guerrero is qualified to provide expert opinions for him in a racketeering lawsuit.

Attorney Michael Dotts, who represents Quichocho, said that Leon Guerrero was a police detective for over 20 years and investigated about 50 cases involving fraud.

Dotts said Leon Guerrero also has training on tracing funds and fraudulent activities and even has Federal Bureau of Investigation training.

Dotts also said that Quichocho's accuser, Jung Ja Kim, failed to point out what would qualify an expert to testify with regard to fraud and the concealment of funds.

Kim, a businesswoman, has filed a racketeering lawsuit in federal court against her then counsel, Quichocho.

Quichocho retained as his expert Leon Guerrero, who was then owner of LG Private Investigation Services. His expert report was filed on July 27, 2012.

In that report, Leon Guerrero had stated that Kim was using a series of corporate entities that she in fact controlled to hide assets from her former husband and the Division of Revenue and Tax.

Leon Guerrero had also stated, among other things, that Kim was using other individuals to accomplish the same purposes of concealing corporate entities.

Attorney Colin Thompson, counsel for Kim, recently asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to exclude Leon Guerrero's testimony as an expert witness.

Thompson asserted that Leon Guerrero's opinions are "unreliable, lack of any logical or methodical basis, and lack facts or identifiable data."

Thompon said that Leon Guerrero's opinions are not relevant and that his testimony will not aid the jury.

In Quichocho's reply, Dotts said the methods that Leon Guerrero used is the same ones that he used in his 20-plus years as a criminal investigator.

Dotts said Leon Guerrero's opinions are highly relevant because what really happened was that Quichocho was only one in a series of attorneys Kim used to help her conceal assets.

Dotts said that Kim can test Leon Guerrero's opinions on cross-examination and can also argue them at closing arguments.

NEW STUDENT OFFICERS NMC

Northern Marianas College dean of Student Services, Leo Pangelinan, far left, and Office of Admissions and Records director Manny Castro, far right, recently welcomed newly sworn in Associated Students of NMC officers during an investiture ceremony held on campus. ASNMC officers are elected each fall semester to represent NMC students. From left: Pangelinan; Justine Mallari, senator; Riya Nathrani, treasurer; Jian Joyner, secretary; Chenglong "Alex" Shen, president; Faithful Mendiola, senator; Lani Russell, vice president; Ervin Cruz, senator; and Castro.

Tinian Lions Club takes part in coastal cleanup

The Tinian Marianas Lions Club took part in the International Coastal Cleanup, albeit three days after the Sept. 18 date for the islandwide event on Tinian.

The organization, which was only recently established, was able to collect 150 lbs of garbage at its designated beach site at Long Beach on Sept. 21.

TLMC president Liz Hofchneider said a total of 33 volunteers participated in the cleanup, including 15 Lions Club members, six members of the Tinian Junior Senior High School National Honor Society, and 12 staff and management of JC Café.

Hofchneider said the 150 lbs of trash they collected were mainly made up of metals, plastic bottles, and empty beer cans.

Tinianwide, the International Coastal Cleanup was coordinated by the Coastal Resources Management and involved a total of 145 volunteers: 68 adults and 77 youth.

CRM ICC Tinian coordinator Ed Hofschneider said the coastal cleanup covered 10 beach sites and yielded 793 lbs of trash, enough to fill 42 garbage bags.

CNMIwide, a total of 10,290 lbs of trash was collected by over a thousand people during the 28th annual International Beach Cleanup on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, according to CRM ICC coordinator Nicole Schafer. ***(Mark Rabago)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Marianas Lions Club and other volunteers pose with the 150 lbs of trash they collected at Long Beach last Sept. 21 as part of the International Coastal Cleanup.

Probable cause found to charge man who allegedly used minors to steal

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against a man who allegedly used three minors to steal cash and items from a store in Chalan Kanoa.

At a preliminary hearing last week, Camacho found probable cause to believe that Alexander C. Dueñas may have committed theft, and conspiracy to commit theft.

Camacho ordered the 24-year-old Dueñas to answer the charges.

Arraignment will be today, Monday, at 9am.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Dueñas with one count of theft and one count of conspiracy to commit theft.

OAG charged Dueñas' co-defendant, Flare Ngirutoi, 18, with three counts of theft and three counts of conspiracy to commit theft.

Chief prosecutor Shelli Neal stated in the information that Dueñas conspired with Ngirutoi and a minor in July to steal digital cameras, cash, and other items from Bobby Market.

Neal said that Ngirutoi stole digital cameras, $20 cash, and a Playstation, from Bobby Market on July 21, 2013, and July 23, 2013.

A police detective stated in his report that Dueñas and Ngirutoi and three other juveniles stole two digital cameras, two Nintendo DS, and one PS Vita game—all worth $1,594.98---and an undetermined amount of cash from Bobby Market.

The detective said footage of the surveillance camera showed that one suspect would distract the store's cashier while the other suspects would steal the items. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Saipan Community School cleanup fills 15 trash bags

The Saipan Community School took part in the 28th Annual International Beach Cleanup last Sept. 20 and 21 on Saipan and staff and students were able to collect garbage enough to fill 15 trash bags, according to pastor for community outreach Robbie Myers.

In all, Myers said, over 130 volunteers who make up the school's entire population took part in the worthwhile activity that immediately took place after weekly chapel last Sept. 20.

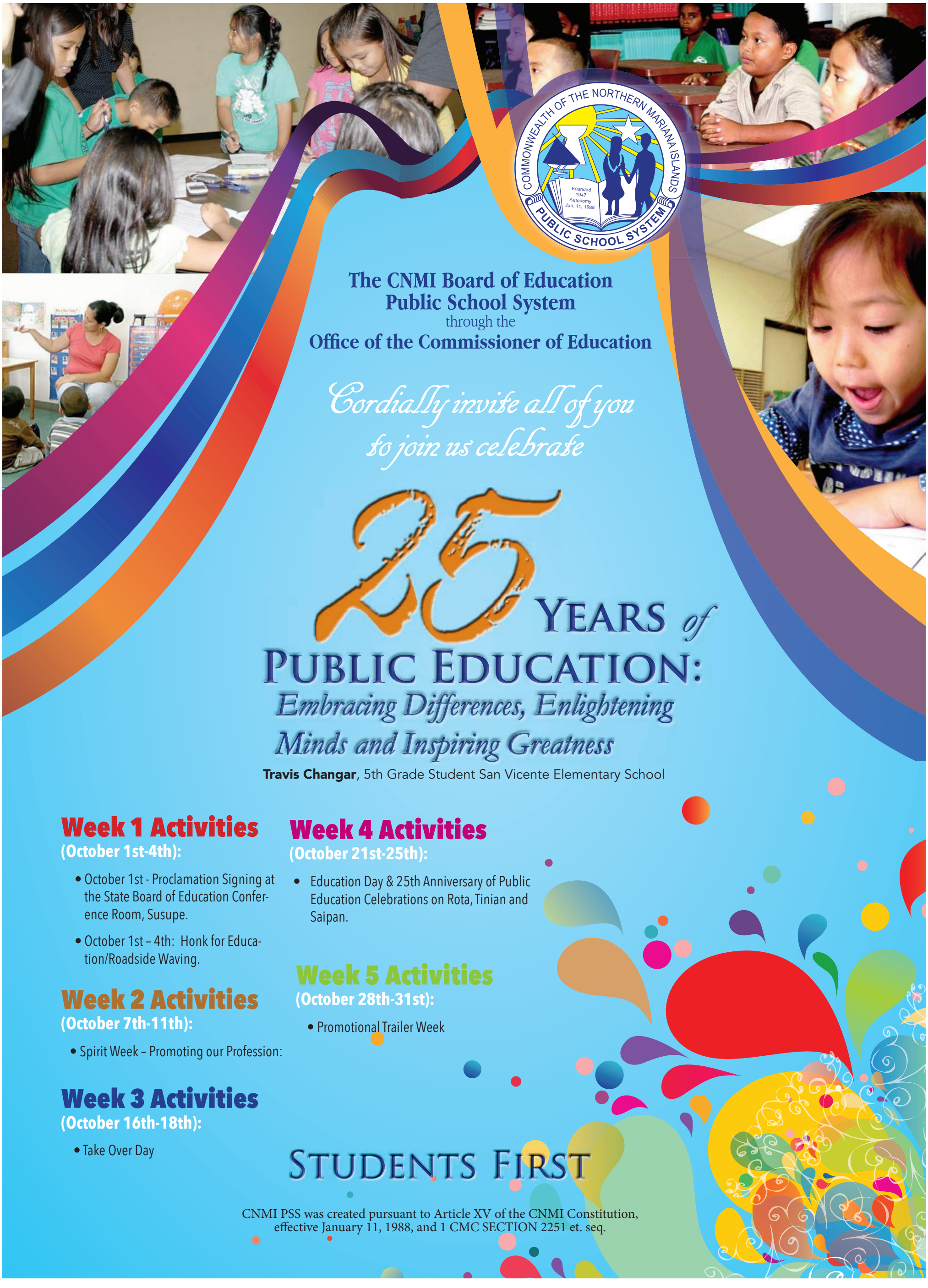
The site that was assigned for them to collect trash was from Sugar Dock to Susupe Beach Park, including the park itself.

He said the trash they collected included empty food containers, scraps of paper, and even an old television set.

"The students and staff of Saipan Community Church were proud to clean up the beach and park so we can all enjoy the beauty of our island. Saipan Community School staff and students strive to be responsible citizens and are happy to participate in events that improve our community," said Myers.

The 28th Annual International Coastal Cleanup was coordinated locally by the Coastal Resources Management. CRM ICC coordinator Nicole Schafer said on Saipan, 698 volunteers were able to collect a total of 5,660 lbs of trash. In the entire CNMI, total of 10,290 lbs of trash was collected by over a thousand people.

Saipan Community Church, which operates the school, was founded in 1947 by Rev. Ed Stephens. It recently welcomed three new pastors to its fold: lead pastor Jason Warren, pastor of leadership development Phil Warren, and Myers. ***(Mark Rabago)***



The CNMI Board of Education
Public School System
through the
Office of the Commissioner of Education

Cordially invite all of you to join us celebrate

25 YEARS of PUBLIC EDUCATION:

Embracing Differences, Enlightening Minds and Inspiring Greatness

Travis Changar, 5th Grade Student San Vicente Elementary School

Week 1 Activities
(October 1st-4th):

- October 1st - Proclamation Signing at the State Board of Education Conference Room, Susupe.
- October 1st – 4th: Honk for Education/Roadside Waving.

Week 2 Activities
(October 7th-11th):

- Spirit Week – Promoting our Profession:

Week 3 Activities
(October 16th-18th):

- Take Over Day

Week 4 Activities
(October 21st-25th):

- Education Day & 25th Anniversary of Public Education Celebrations on Rota, Tinian and Saipan.

Week 5 Activities
(October 28th-31st):

- Promotional Trailer Week

STUDENTS FIRST

CNMI PSS was created pursuant to Article XV of the CNMI Constitution, effective January 11, 1988, and 1 CMC SECTION 2251 et. seq.

Service member dies after race

A sailor stationed at U.S. Naval Hospital Guam died on Sept. 29 for reasons unknown after participating in the annual Guam Beast Run relay race.

The name of the sailor is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

An investigation into the cause of death is ongoing. Further information will be released when available. ***(Naval Hospital Guam Public Affairs)***

ESFDB celebrates founding father's birthday

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja family surrounds the school's founding father, Rev. Monsignor Louis Antonelli, after the special Mass to celebrate his 95th birthday.

The administration, faculty and staff, students, board of directors, and parents of Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja recently showed their love and appreciation for their founding father, Rev. Monsignor Louis Antonelli, for being a great shepherd over God's people in the Luta community during his celebration of his 95th birthday.

The ESFDB family sponsored a special Mass and hosted a birthday celebration in honor of Rev. Monsignor Antonelli during a 9am service.

The longest pastor in the Luta community served in both parishes, being a past administrator for San Francisco de Borja Church and now the pastor of San Isidro Church.

In 1985, Rev. Monsignor Antonelli supplicated the Sisters of Mercy in Guam, whom he fervently wished to have companions in Church ministry, to come to Luta and assist him in Church work and set up a modest Catholic Day Care Center for the community.

Under the Education Act of 1988, ESFDB was granted its first charter to operate as a non-profit educational institution with all rights and privileges. The school was granted its first business license to engage in the operation of a Catholic school.

Eighteen years later, the vision of the school's founding father continues to shine even in the midst of a crippled economy.

"He's a wonderful priest and his legacy in Church ministry and the religious education of the children of the Luta community will live on," said ESFDB administrator/principal Carmen H. Atalig. "His countless baptisms, confirmations, marriages, hospital and house visits to the elderly and sick, and funerals performed during his career have touched our Luta community parishioners in one way or another. That's his legacy."

Rev. Monsignor Antonelli is also known for his trademark punch, called "The Pennsylvania Punch." His trademark can still leave a mark and pain even at the age of 95.

The administration and board of directors would like to express their appreciation to the parents, PTO, Mayor Melchor Mendiola, Rota Mayor's Office staff, and James Manglona. ***(ESFDB)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DEQ Brigade sets Makaka Beach cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality's Cleanup Brigade will be picking up trash at Makaka Beach this Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013, at 8am.

If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday at the Makaka Beach area/parking lot at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a brigade t-shirt.

Last month's International Coastal Cleanup led by the Coastal Resource Management office collected about 5,660 lbs of trash.

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. ***(DEQ)***

MHS mid-progress reports out

Marianas High School would like to invite all parents and guardians to its first quarter Mid-Progress Report on Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm. All teachers will be distributing the reports at the MHS Gym. Students will be released at the normal bell schedule time of 3pm. Call 237-3206 for further information. ***(PR)***

SSHS mid-progress report night on Thurs.

Saipan Southern High School invites parents to meet with their child's teachers at the first quarter Mid-Progress Report Night. Teachers will be in their classrooms from 3pm to 6pm on Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013, and counselors and administrators will also be available for consultation. Students will be released at 1:05pm on this day. ***(PR)***

Free loan packaging workshop

The CNMI Small Business Development Center presents a free workshop, "SSBCI Loan Packaging," on Oct. 4, 2013, 10am-12pm, at the Saipan Chamber Of Commerce, 2nd floor. Online registration is available at pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com. Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, one business day before workshop. Walk-ins are allowed and granted on space availability. Call (670) 664-3018 for pre-registration. ***(PR)***

Bereaved families support group meeting on Oct. 3

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter on Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 6am to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai. The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. For more information, call Jill Derickson at 287-5337 or e-mail jilld@pticom.com. To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(PR)***

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Oct. 1 from 10am to 6pm and 8:30pm to 10pm
- Oct. 2 from 10am to 6pm
- Oct. 3 from 10am to 6pm and 8:30pm to 10pm
- Oct. 4 from 9am to 6pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated above. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 1, 2005

Alien workers keep their jobs

Over a hundred nonresident workers in some government offices, including those at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., can now breathe a sigh of relief as the bills extending their employment for one year to five years were signed into law yesterday. Gov. Juan N. Babauta signed Senate Bill 14-98 yesterday afternoon, which grants the Department of Public Health five years or up to Sept. 30, 2010 to hire non-U.S physicians and dentists and two years or up to Sept. 30, 2007 to hire other health professional workers. It also allows the DPH to offer nonresident physicians and dentists a two-year contract initially and one-year term thereafter. Other nonresident workers will remain at one-year contract terms with DPH.

News blackout on Bird Island bust?

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources remains mum on the Bird Island bust since Wednesday, continuing to withhold details about the incident. A draft press release had not been released until yesterday. Last Wednesday, DLNR Secretary Richard Seman's office said the secretary would have to approve the press statement first before it could be released. The *Saipan Tribune* followed up on the media statement on Thursday, but was told that the secretary was in Guam. This reporter called Seman's office yesterday to follow up on the media statement, but was told that the secretary was unavailable to take the call. The DLNR sent no press release to the *Saipan Tribune* as requested. Based on unconfirmed reports, a ranking government official has intervened in the case. The official, whose name is being withheld, is seeking re-election in the upcoming November polls.

October 1, 2006

6 security guards form bike patrol

Six security officers, along with two police officers, completed Friday their 40-hour bike patrol training at the Department of Public Safety. Following their certification, the six security guards, all members of the Group 4 Securicor CNMI, will form the Garapan Bike Patrol. During a press conference at DPS, Peter Callaghan, branch manager for Group 4 Securicor CNMI, said the Bike Patrol will cover the tourist district in Garapan. "We are going to launch the program Tuesday evening. That would be the first shift.from 7pm to 3am seven days a week," Callaghan said.

Future cover-over refunds eyed for rebate payments

The CNMI government has bared a plan to use future cover-over funds to settle unpaid tax rebates. The U.S. and Commonwealth governments have already signed a $6.2 million agreement on the partial settlement of the CNMI's cover over claims. According to Attorney General Matthew T. Gregory, this partial settlement concerns CNMI claims over past due income taxes that CNMI employers withheld, but deposited with the U.S Department of Treasury. Gregory announced Friday that the funds would be wire-transferred to the CNMI this week-if it had not been already. The money would be credited to the government budget for fiscal year 2006, which ended yesterday.

October 1, 2007

NMI authorities holding $350K in taxes from uncashed checks

CNMI authorities have been holding approximately $350,000 in taxes from checks issued to class members of the class lawsuit against the garment industry that were never cashed, according to court documents. Joyce C. H. Tang, one of the lawyers of plaintiffs in the class suit, stated in the settlement fund report filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI that these withheld taxes were deposited with the CNMI when the checks were issued, in accordance with applicable regulations.

'If it's not broken, why fix it?'

CNMI Board of Education member Herman T. Guerrero said if he were to speak for the entire board, he would opt not to have the Child Care Program transferred to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. In his view, Guerrero said the Public School System should still handle the Child Care Program instead of DCCA. "If it's not broken then why fix it?" said Guerrero. The board member was looking forward to meet personally Gov. Benigno R. Fitial last Friday and have a chat with him regarding this matter. Guerrero said he would like to find out the real reason behind the proposal from the Governor's Office.

Island Snapshots

GRANT-WRITING WORKSHOP

NMC

Individuals from various offices, programs and organizations in the community learned the basics of writing grants in the "Introduction to Grant Writing" workshop hosted at the Northern Marianas College. The two-day workshop, facilitated by Dr. Kelly Roberts, standing center, was sponsored by the University of Hawaii - Center on Disability Studies and NMC's University for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.

RED CROSS DONATION

ARC

American Red Cross representatives receive a donation from Micronesian Brokers general manager Dennis Yoshimoto, center, and Jones & Guerrero Company, Inc. general manager John Smith, left, Friday, Sept. 27, in lower Navy Hill. The donation will go toward supporting ARC's Club 200 fundraising event, scheduled for Oct. 19. Also in the photo are Red Cross board of directors Jean Sablan, second left, Larry Lee, right, and Chapter executive director John Hirsh, second right.

COURTESY CALL

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Board members of the Northern Marianas Trade Institute meet with Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart to discuss possible collaborations on workforce development and training.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy, happy birthday to our big baby, Lei'ane Esther Onuki! Know that you make us proud every day and that you are loved to the moon and back! We love you!

Happy 18th birthday to Louvicki N. Camacho! May your day be filled with lots of love, happiness, and wishing you the best birthday ever! Greetings come from Elphi.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 195

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Neither tech advocates nor copyright holders are happy with the rules for the use of works online

What do you get when you replace the original dialogue from classic Peanuts comic strips with lyrics from songs by the beloved British indie-rock band The Smiths? A wry and clever blog that a major record company tries to shut down.

The case of This Charming Charlie, a blog that features Peanuts characters uttering lines by The Smiths, is a good example of the collateral damage caused by copyright holders struggling to protect their works against the onslaught of piracy online. The problem for the music and movie industries and their artists is so vast, they've had to speed up and automate the process of detecting infringement and bringing enforcement actions. That haste has led them to challenge some creative uses of their works that are wholly legitimate.

The blog's creator, graphic designer Lauren LoPrete of Oakland, Calif., is a fan of both The Smiths and Peanuts, and she recognized the common strain of melodrama in Charles Schulz's drawings and Morrissey's lyrics. The specific inspiration for the mash-up, though, was the sight of Charlie Brown on a Smiths concert poster that LoPrete came across while doing research for the record label she co-founded, Loglady Records.

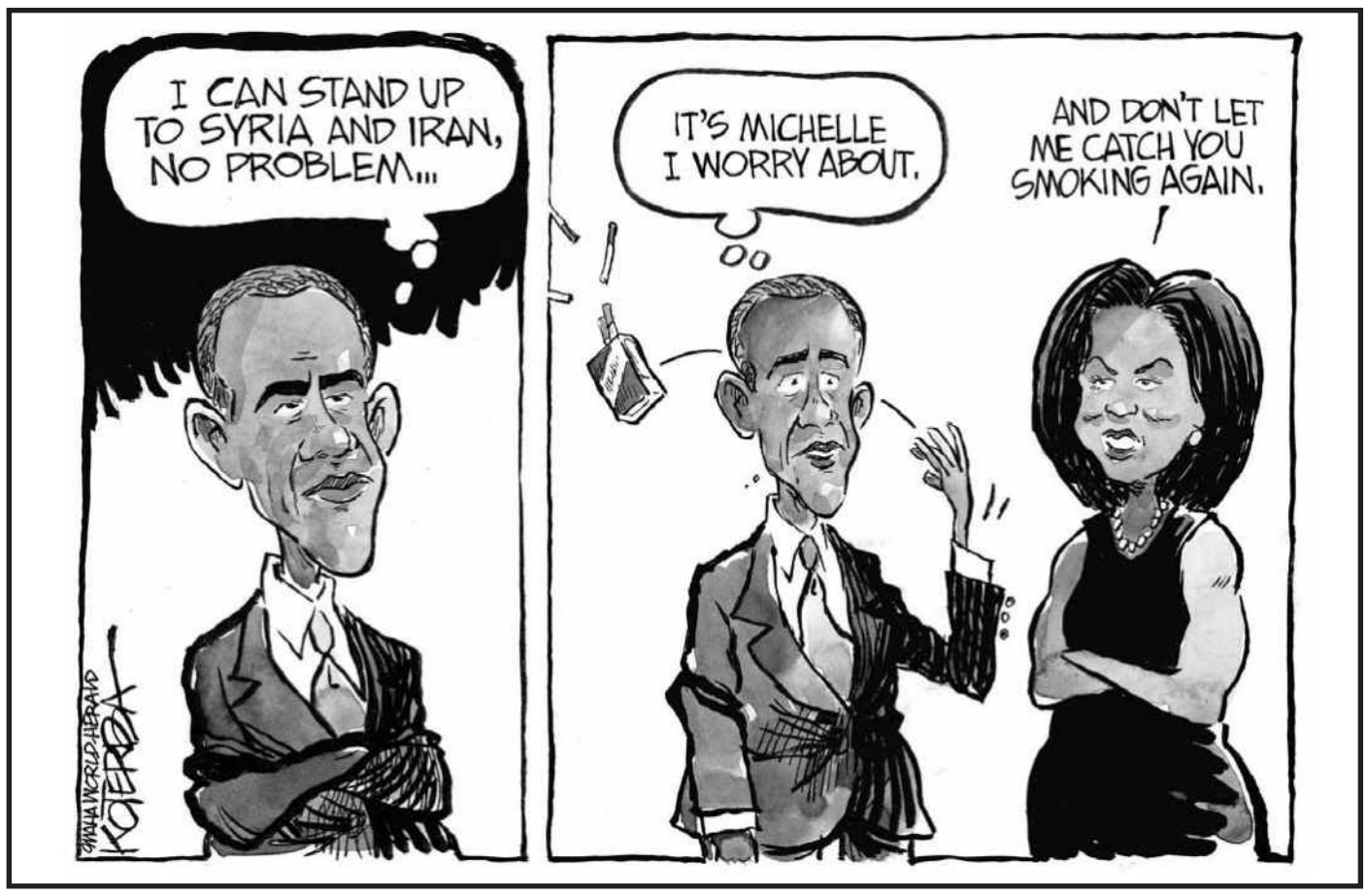
Launched in August, This Charming Charlie quickly attracted a spate of media coverage and 60,000 followers. But it also drew a succession of letters and takedown notices from Universal Music Publishing, which holds the copyrights to The Smiths' songs. Tumblr, the blog's publisher, responded by removing three of the mash-ups last week, prompting LoPrete to announce the blog's demise.

Then she changed her mind. As her attorney, Dan Booth of Cambridge, Mass., noted in a letter to Tumblr, LoPrete's parodic re-purposing of The Smiths' lyrics perfectly fits the definition of a fair use: She posts only snippets of the lyrics, puts them in a wholly new context and doesn't make any money off them or damage the market for the songs. In fact, the blog draws new attention to the long-defunct band.

Universal says that it's no longer pursuing the matter, so LoPrete's story has a happy ending. It didn't look that way a week ago, however, when LoPrete was waving the white flag. Tech advocates cite numerous anecdotes like hers as evidence that the law gives copyright holders too much power to intimidate suspected infringers and squelch new forms of creativity made possible by digital technology. But copyright holders aren't happy with the law either, which they say offers little protection from piracy on the scale that the Internet makes possible.

It's been 15 years since Congress set up rules for the use of copyrighted material online; it's past time for lawmakers to overhaul them so that they work better for both copyright holders and those who make fair use of their works.

©2013 Los Angeles Times



Naufragu na republican

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.*

Hu e'ekuñgog si Joaquin P. Villagomez, i kabesanten i pa'gu uma'asagua na pattidan Covenant yan Republican. I ti hasañgan mas gumu'ot attension megai gi mane'ekuñgog. Kau listu si Kindu' umapagaye destrosiun republican desde 'nai ma-impeach i hatahgue na kabesante as Benigno R. Fitial?

Na ti magahet na si Fitial dumestrosia linala' enteru iya Marianas. Na ti pot diskuiduña na megai na tautau gi señgsoñg halom fache' miserapble 'nai mangaige pa'gu? I ma-upus yan ti matatiye lai konstitusion (Attikulu III, Seksiona 20) ni prumutehe pagamientun man-ritirau?

Haf' para in' eppe i mas ke tres mit (3,000) na familia ni dumiñgu i tanu' pot mampos destrosiau yan sumen taya' appottunidat cho'chu' para siha? Kau propiu este na sinisede pot diskuidun i mangaige pa'gu gi puestun publiku?

Para uma-utot 25 pot sientu pagamientun man-ritirau, mamamaila' hatsadan kandet gi Oktubre, mas guaguan na areglun health insurance, gaselina yan kahulu' presiun fektus siha. Na ti este solu i rekueddon republican?

Si Fitial ha abandona i Covenant, i pattida ni pumegague' yan Inos kumu gobietnu yan segundu gobietnu. Tinatiye este 'nai i Gobietnu as Eulogio Inos ha abandona lokue' i pattidan republican. Estague' siha na malabida u guaha esplikasion ginen i nuebu na kabesanten republican.

Hinalom buttun kabayu

Malagnos anunsiu na mamamaila' $150 miyon na fondu para programan Medicaid. Man-magof hit sa' miyon ta'lu mamamaila' ginen gineftau na Tihu-ta as Samuet (Uncle Sam).

Ni unu kumetuñgu' haf' na areglu guaha dispues de hokog este na fondu. I areglu ilelegña na hita dispues para ta prebeniye komplidu fondu este na programa gigon ta hokog.

Para i miyon pot miyon na dibin gobietnu pa'gu, guaha mohon kampu ta sodae' este na gastu dispues de siñku años? Te'ug na obligasion fondu 'nai sige mona. Dibi i ha chuchule' mage i kabayun hayu.

Sueddon programan ayudu

Masoda' ginen un' estudiu na guaha 13 na estadu 'nai mas ke $15 pesus gi ora sueddun rumisisibe ayudun programan federat. Ni unu machochochu' lau $31,200 pesus gi sakan ha gagana ginen programan ayudu siha.

I mediu sueddon federat (minimum wage) ennau i $7.25 gi ora. I difirensia gi tutat mas ke $7 mit pesus. Kase este na guaha 46 miyon na tautau pa'gu mangaige gi todu klasen programan federat. I otru bandaña este i sige lokue' menos i numeron man-man-apapase kontribusion tax. 'Nai ginacha' megaiña maresisibe ke humahalom, haf' para uttimoña i fondun este siha na programa?

Simiyan Melon

Manae' un' amiguhu simiyan melon Japon. Ha tanom gi lanchu. 'Nai ha kusecha ha bende guatu gi un' hotel. Managu' i manehante na umafahan todu kinisechan melon ginen i prohimu sa' sumen mames. Tai achaigua mamesña gi todu melon ni mafahan guine.

'Nai halie' na fahna, ha rikonose paketin simiya ni ninae'n un' lancherun Japon. Ha kattaye i kompania para u ketuñgu' kuantu baliña kada paketi. Mampos nina' disganau 'nai mattu ineppe na $3 mit kada unu. Ha konfitma na huñgan paire simiya siha ginen Japon sa' hagas man-ma-estudiaye.

■ ■ ■

I otru simiya ayu i sustansian finu' i Saina pot pinedoñg pipitas siha: 1). i man-poduñg gi katsada, 2.) hilu' achu', 3.) halom tituka' yan 4.) mauleg na odda'. Haf' moralidat usun simiya gi fino'ña? Guiya 'nau i kuattru klasen tautau. I mefe'na ti fitme hineñgeña ya binatsala estake dinestrosia ni tentasion. I hilu' achu' i mantai hale', halom tituka' i manfinalulun dispues ni minagof tanu'. I uttimu i tumuñgu yan kumomprende i tinagu' i Saina ya machogue dibuenamente.

■ ■ ■

Hafa toigue hit tiempon fañuchanan. Mauleg para i fan gualuan lau sinapet i peskadot. Lokue', ti sen mauleg 'an mampos fotgun i tanu'. Lau kliman tano'ta ni hagas ta payune. Tiempon fañomnagan kulan preparasion fangualu'an. Gigon pañgpañg primet agua de Abrit, matutuhon i lancheria man-mananom.

Halom Didog Na Chinatsaga

Kase todu u fan pinalalae' tinetpen ti suñguyun na pininite yan chinatsaga. Ha inklusu este finatai (mañainata, che'lu-ta, yan guinaiyata), dibutsiu, ma-amot ni bañku ni solu gima familia yan kareta gi mattirun tiempun hai'las.

Memegaiña gi halom este na pinadese esta hagas hu chule' patteghu fuera de machule'guan gima' familia. Gi katkuet 'nai hafagchae' hit pininite yan chinatsaga, esta ta u'upus hilu' i lañget manensinahyau ayudu gi halom te'ug yan palagse' na fache' pinadese.

Mauleg un' aksepta na ti hagu' ha' mamadedese na kontodu i otru siha mañgilisyanu. Poressu, sehan ñaihon ya gi hilu' pinasensia un' chage kumomprende i sinisedemu. Gi uttimu, famaisen gi hilu' tinayuyot ya un' inayuda ni Saina rimikohe tatte pas yan sanu na hinassomu.

Yangin un' tuñgu' mañgge', pega papa' gi papet finaposmu sa' mientras mas un' tuge' mas ñahlalañg siñientemu. Etre ennau 'sino aligau un' atuñgo'mu ni siña umekuñgog yan umapagat hau. Adumididi' u mapau haf' pinadesimu 'nai sinede hau kumontinua mona kareramu.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Our social safety net is anti-freedom

By LANE FILLER
Newsday

Lane Filler is a member of the Newsday *editorial board. His email address is lane.filler@newsday.com.*

We're not allowed to drive cars without having insurance. That assures that if we cause loss, there's money to pay for it.

There are, in fact, a lot of things you can't legally do without proving, via bonding and insurance, that you can pay to clean up a mess if it all goes bad. You can't be a general contractor or an insect exterminator or a doctor unless you show there is a safety net if the house falls down the week after the owners move in, the cats die instead of the cockroaches, or you remove a kidney when it was just a kidney stone that needed to come out.

But you can have a kid without proving you can handle the financial obligations involved.

For most of history this wouldn't have mattered. People had kids and took care of them the best they could, and when the kids grew up they cared for themselves. But as we move closer to the cradle-to-grave assurance that society will take care of people's needs when they can't provide for themselves, problems arise.

We're in a national argument over Obamacare. Put aside for the moment the fact that the funding for the program is fictional and President Barack Obama recently decided that for 2014, just off the top of his head, he'd suspend the requirement that employers cover employees but keep in place the rule that those employees must get coverage or pay fines.

The Affordable Care Act is intended to provide insurance for those who don't have any, often through subsidies generated from taxes paid by more prosperous people. The fact that many employers are now dropping their insurance plans or kicking off spouses and retirees is just an unfortunate side effect of poor social engineering. But Obamacare is in line with all the programs we love (or hate) and have gotten used to: Medicare and Medicaid and Social Security and food stamps and welfare and subsidized housing and subsidized child care and even public education. We have made more and more responsibilities communal to assure the needs of all are met.

In that context, every newborn child is a massive potential financial obligation on society.

Ideally, every parent would pay lots of bills and taxes, and every kid would grow up a boon to society. But if the world were ideal, we wouldn't need these programs at all.

What's the lifetime cost of educating, feeding, housing and providing medical care for people whose families—and later, themselves—can't provide these things, or pay their share of the taxes? How long will society accept the idea that people can bring into the world infinite obligations, with no proof they can pay for them?

We imagine class warfare as a battle between the rich and poor, but it's not the rich who go without because the government provides for the poor. It's members of the middle class who cannot afford their own child care, health care, kids' college and retirements, but know their taxes go to pay for the child care, health care, tuitions and retirements of others.

These programs don't prove us a caring society. In fact, they've made us so uncharitable that only under government threat will we care for these least among us.

It's hard to imagine a day when people will say, "If we stop letting those who can't prove they can afford kids have kids, a lot of problems will end. If pest exterminators have to have bonding and insurance to prove they can meet their obligations, parents should darn well have to do the same."

But it's harder than it would have been for an American in 1900 to imagine a day when half his paycheck would be withheld for taxes, largely to pay for services for others.

And on a moral level, I'd say one's no worse than the other.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nonsense letters

First, I want to know where Francisco R. Agulto learned his English. It was funny seeing him try to sound smart and make sense, which is virtually an impossible trick when your subject matter is nonsense. But I'm not writing this for him but for the many readers who want to hear what I have to say about his letter and the letter from Vince G. Cabrera, which was ridiculous.

Francisco was trying to relate the economy of the CNMI to the experiences of building the pyramids with slaves who did not get a wage, the era of feudalism, and the industrial age, which had nothing to do with a standard minimum wage. All of these events preceded the wage wars of America in which people died fighting and why I'm fighting for better wages today. So his remarks were really nothing more than gibberish, which I'm sure most readers picked up on.

FYI Francisco, John Locke gave us the philosophy for our government and he didn't say one thing about economics or minimum wage. Claiming to know so much about capitalism and economics but I bet you haven't taken one economics course. Francisco is confused about the principle of equality as there are no parameters to limit this principle, so saying he doesn't know if I'm talking about "equality of opportunity" or "equality of outcome" proves his ignorance! Labor and minimum wage go hand and hand but Francisco needs me or someone to draw him a picture of our entire economy before he gets it and I can't do that in the newspaper so I guess he will remain ignorant, as one would have to be ignorant to think of making soup without water.

As for Vince G. Cabrera's letter, it was truly ridiculous. FYI Vince, I speak for my wife, my children who are local, the many locals who continue to tell me to keep writing, and for the thousands of locals here and abroad who are fed up with people like you who dishonour our heroes alive and dead who fight for America, democracy, freedom, and equality. You even disrespect the free enterprise rights of your fellow locals who have a right to sell their land, and you disrespect the U.S. Constitution. I know locals in the mainland would not want to be treated the way mainlanders are treated here. Equality is also a reciprocal phenomenon, which I guess Vince doesn't know. You may not want to change Article 12 but you can't fight equality forever and you will be forced to give every American their right someday by voters or the feds. How many times do the feds have to step in before people like you get it, Vince?

I am so fed up with this narrow-minded thinking. This is about giving everyone their rights, not selling the land. Claiming your children's children may be renters is ridiculous when homesteads are created to make sure that never happens; it's a false rationale. You need to know that giving mainlanders the right to own land does not mean you have to sell your land, so you are complaining out of pure ignorance like Francisco. You need to be educating locals not to sell and how to use their land to become entrepreneurs but you can't deny civil rights by promoting fear with the Hawaiian scare, racism, and discrimination with Article 12 and violating locals' guaranteed right to free enterprise.

To make it worse, Vince thinks it's OK to take billions from American taxpayers and not have to give anything back. Vince, you may never be an American at heart but I can bet the locals who are putting their life on the line in our public services like DPS, the National Guard, and the military are proud and true Chamorro- and Carolinian-Americans and you are a dying breed doomed to extinction. People are tired of suffering as it is time for progress and Article 12 and you are in the way, Vince, so guess what's going to eventually happen! Vince wants casinos, not progress, so readers already know your statements are biased toward me and indigestible. But I'm glad all NMDs don't think like Vince, as I would like to believe most are concerned more with saving the culture and treating every citizen equally. I also don't think your ancestors would agree with the discrimination you are spouting, especially when they were subjugated under foreign governments without rights for their entire civilized existence until Americans freed them!

FYI Vince, I have ancestors too and Dr. King died fighting to get equality for you when he was assassinated while helping the garbage men in my city to get higher wages. Today they are called sanitation workers and they are the highest paid in the nation. So I know from my personal experiences in Dr. King's presence that he, along with the multitude of Americans who fought for your equality Vince and higher wages, would be ready to jump out of their graves over the social imperialist discrimination you promote. Get educated! I'm keeping Dr. King's dream of equality for every citizen alive in the CNMI, as Dr. King taught us to fight the injustices of racism and discrimination. I am also willing to bet with you Vince that I have done more to save the local culture than you and it's a matter of public and legislative records.

The reality is people like Francisco and Vince make it clear to me and many locals about my calling to speak out publicly and that God knew exactly what he was doing when he landed me in the CNMI. I write about the realities that are often not very pretty but I do so with high goals and the hope of a better future for us and our children. The reality is that neither one of these two mentioned one thing that could even be considered constructive. Haven't they learned that their character assassination attempts don't work on trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent people, especially when they are intellectually endowed? But the reality is people like me always turn their intended adverse attacks into an opportunity for prosperous and eye-opening intellectual exchanges to expose the hard truths and facts. FYI fellows, if I write something, you can bet that I can stand on a square and defend it from all sides. It's really not a fair contest anyway with these two and it's even funny as they don't even know what they are doing. But I will tell them, as the reality is people want to hear what I have to say and they are only contributing to make Ambrose M. Bennett more appreciated and immortalized in the annals of CNMI history every time they try to blast me, especially when time continues to prove that I was right yet again.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Have you tried raising goats for your family consumption?

Raising goats is fun and hard work. It requires at least a daily check up to see if they are still alright as you expect them to be. It is not much of a high maintenance other than you make sure they have enough food and water in their fence.

Healthy goats look shiny and fluffy. They come in different colors like brown, white, black, gray, etc. Their horns are big and remind us of a mini calf.

We started raising goats about two years ago and so far we have 16 of them. We are very proud of the productivity as it pays off with taking *tangan tangan*, *boksu,* or other vegetation for their food, in addition to the pasture they have in the fence. Our sons help in taking the *tangan tangan*, *boksu,* or other vegetation and we make sure we check them every day after work. Recently the road to the farm was paved, giving us a shorter route to get there. About two of them looked very tempting for slaughtering but we decided to celebrate on Thanksgiving Day and give grace to the Lord for this blessing.

Unfortunately, two weeks ago, when we went to the farm in the late afternoon to check on the goats, to our surprise, we found four of them missing. We felt so bad and sad; who would do such a thing? We called the police to report the incident.

On Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013, at around 4pm, it was a routine check to go to the farm and check the goats. To our astonishment, it was a disaster. There were four dogs inside the fence chasing the goats. How did those dogs get inside the fence when we locked the gate? This time six of the goats were dead, beaten up by the dogs, and two were missing. With this tragedy, we now only have four goats left. We felt like our hearts were pierced by this incident. Why would people do such a thing? If they need the goats for food, we would be more than glad to give them. But to destroy them and have them taken away, it is so hurting, especially seeing the dead goats on the ground. Again, we called the police to report the incident.

The government and businesses on our island are working very hard to promote the CNMI so that our tourism industry will continue to rise. With this incident with our goats, this is an indication that the CNMI should do something to protect our tourists and our people as well. There are people out there who do not have the heart to respect someone's properties and belongings. Whoever did this, we hope that you will learn to think and do the right things. One of the Ten Commandments of God is "Thou shalt not steal."

Rosiky and Winnie Camacho
As Lito, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

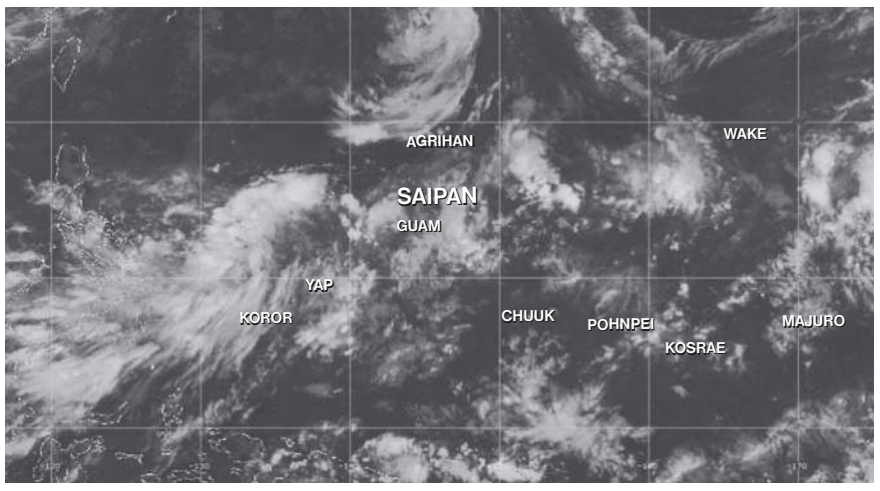
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲87	▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲89	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼75
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼54
Beijing	Rain	▲73	▼49
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼73
London	Showers	▲64	▼59
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲80	▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲61	▼47
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼56
Osaka	Sunny	▲86	▼69
Paris	Cloudy	▲70	▼58
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲80	▼65
Rome	Sunny	▲77	▼59
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼55
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼56
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼64
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼72
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼61

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough enters the discussion area near 14N130E and continues through a circulation located north of Palau near 12N134E to 25N145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of the trough across Palau and Yap between 5N and 17N from 130E to 142E. The circulation is the subject of a tropical cyclone formation alert. For more information, see bulletins issued by the joint typhoon warning center under WMO header WTPN21 PGTW. A surface trough extends from the Marianas near 16N146E to 18N159E to 18N170E to 25N174E. Convergence along and south of the trough is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms just east of the Marianas between 11N and 15N from 146E to 150E and between 15N and 19N from 149E to 164E and east of Wake Island between 12N and 19N from 170E to 180. Another surface trough stretches from 10N158E to a weak circulation just north of Kosrae near 6N163E to 10N167E. Scattered showers can be found near Kosrae between 5N and 8N from 160E to 166E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:28 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:58 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
6:57 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:07 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:06 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:05 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:06 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:36 AM	3:21 PM
Wednesday	3:26 AM	4:01 PM
Thursday	4:16 AM	4:42 PM
Friday	5:07 AM	5:24 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:10 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	1:30am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Premiums unveiled for health overhaul plans

WASHINGTON (AP)—With new health insurance markets launching this week, the Obama administration is unveiling premiums and plan choices for 36 states where the federal government is taking the lead to cover uninsured residents.

Before tax credits that work like an upfront discount for most consumers, sticker-price premiums for a mid-range benchmark plan will average $328 a month nationally for an individual, comparable to payments for a new car.

The overview of premiums and plan choices, released by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, comes as the White House swings into full campaign mode to promote the benefits of the Affordable Care Act to a skeptical public. Congressional Republicans, meanwhile, refuse to abandon their quest to derail "Obamacare" and flirt with a government shutdown to force the issue.

Sebelius stressed the positive in a preview call with reporters. Consumers will be able to choose from an average of 53 plan options when the new markets open Oct. 1 for people who don't have health care on the job.

"For millions of Americans, these new options will finally make health insurance work within their budgets," she said.

A report by her department estimated that about 95 percent of consumers will have two or more insurers to choose from. And the administration says premiums will generally be lower than what congressional budget experts estimated when the legislation was being debated. About one-fourth of the insurers participating are new to the individual coverage market, a sign that could be good for competition.

But averages can be misleading. When it comes to the new health care law, individuals can get dramatically different results based on their particular circumstances.

Where you live, the plan you pick, family size, age, tax credits based on your income, and even tobacco use will all impact the bottom line. All those variables could make the system hard to navigate.

For example, the average individual premium for a benchmark policy known as the "second-lowest cost silver plan" ranges from a low of $192 in Minnesota to a high of $516 in Wyoming. That's the sticker price, before tax credits.

In the three states with the highest uninsured population, the benchmark plan will average $373 in California, $305 in Texas, and $328 in Florida. Differences between states can be due to the number of insurers competing and other factors.

"One surprise is Texas," said Larry Levitt of the Kaiser Family Foundation. "That is a state that has put up roadblocks to implementation, but the premiums there are below average."

The second-lowest-cost silver plan is important because tax credits are keyed to its cost in local areas.

But consumers don't have to take silver. They can pick from four levels of coverage, from bronze to platinum. All the plans cover the same benefits and cap annual out-of-pocket expenses at $6,350 for an individual, $12,700 for families.

The big difference is cost sharing through annual deductibles and copayments. Bronze covers 60 percent of expected costs; silver, 70 percent, on up to platinum at 90 percent. Bronze plans have the lowest premiums and the highest cost sharing.

The administration report found that factoring in tax credits, a 27-year-old making $25,000 a year would see the premium for the benchmark silver plan drop to $145 in nearly every state. But if that hypothetical young adult used the tax credit to buy the cheapest bronze plan, he or she could cut the monthly premium to $74 in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, $102 in Orlando, and $119 in Pittsburgh.

For a family of four making $50,000, the tax credit would cut the monthly premium for the benchmark silver plan to $282. But if the family used its tax credit to buy the cheapest bronze plan, the premium would be $26 a month in Dallas-Fort Worth, $126 in Orlando, and $209 in Pittsburgh.

In the Washington, D.C., metro area, the hypothetical family could find a zero-premium bronze plan, while the lowest an individual could get after applying their tax credit would be $66.

Such differences are sure to leave many people scratching their heads. Officials said they're due to complicated interactions between the tax credits and insurance company pricing strategies in dynamic markets.

Another outside analyst said the administration analysis of premiums is consistent with what the 14 states running their own insurance markets have reported.

But Dan Mendelson, president of the market analysis firm Avalere Health, said the focus on premiums is too narrow. "The analysis doesn't account for cost sharing," Mendelson said. "This is a limitation." To get an idea of the true cost of coverage, consumers have to add up premiums and their expected out-of-pocket costs.

"Consumers are going to need to shop," Mendelson added. "Sometimes a silver offering doesn't cost much more than a bronze."

He added two other caveats: Be ready for significant cost sharing, and check carefully that your doctors and nearby hospitals are in the plan's network.

Starting Jan. 1, virtually all Americans will be required to carry health insurance or face fines. At the same time, the health care law will prohibit insurance companies from turning away people in poor health, or charging them more. And it will limit what insurers can charge their oldest customers.

Experts say the plans under the health care law are not comparable to what's currently sold on the individual health insurance markets, because the coverage is broader and the financial protection for policyholders is more robust.

Obama is directly engaging in the promotional campaign for the health care law. Tuesday, he and former President Bill Clinton talked health care during a session sponsored by Clinton's foundation. And Obama is planning a speech on the law on Thursday.

In response to the administration's premium and plan-choice information, a spokesman for Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said that premiums that are "lower than projected" are not the same as "lower than they are now."

"The White House is making every effort possible to spin the bad news that seems to come every day, but the American people know that even this rosy scenario is not what they were promised when Democrats were ramming this bill through Congress on a party-line vote," McConnell spokesman Don Stewart said in a statement.

States resist, build nascent insurance markets

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—With new online health insurance exchanges set to launch Tuesday, consumers in many Southern and Plains states will have to look harder for information on how the marketplaces work than their counterparts elsewhere.

In Republican-led states that oppose the federal Affordable Care Act, the strategy has ranged from largely ignoring the health overhaul to encouraging residents not to sign up and even making it harder for nonprofit organizations to provide information about the exchanges.

Health care experts worry that ultimately consumers in these states could end up confused about the exchanges, and the overall rollout of the law could be hindered.

"Without the shared planning and the cooperation of the state government, it's much harder for them to be ready to implement this complicated law," said Rachel Grob of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who has studied differences in how states are implementing segments of the law.

Several of the 14 Northeast, Midwest and Western states running their own insurance exchanges have spent weeks on marketing and advertising campaigns to help residents get ready to buy health insurance. At least $684 million will be spent on publicity explaining what people need to do next and persuading the doubtful to sign up for coverage, according to data compiled The Associated Press.

By contrast, most states across the South have declined federal grants to advertise the exchanges and ceded the right to run the marketplaces themselves. And early Sunday, the Republican-led U.S. House added to legislation that would avert a partial government shutdown a one-year delay of the creation of the marketplaces. Democrats have said delaying the health care law would sink the bill, and the White House promised a veto.

Governors from the Carolinas to Kansas have decried the exchanges and the rest of the law, which was passed by Congress in 2010 and many argue reaffirmed when voters re-elected President Obama in 2012. The Supreme Court in 2012 upheld the constitutionality of most of the law; a piece of the Medicaid expansion was an exception.

"When it came to Obamacare, we didn't just say `no,' we said `never,'" South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said last month alongside U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, whom she appointed last December when Jim DeMint resigned. "And we're going to keep on fighting until we get people like Sen. Scott and everybody else in Congress to defund Obamacare."

Others have gone beyond fiery rhetoric.

Missouri's lieutenant governor urged residents to refuse to sign up for federal health insurance, while Kansas legislators and the state's governor enacted a law symbolically declaring that residents can't be forced to buy health insurance.

In Florida, state officials ordered county health departments to bar from their property navigators hired under federal grants to explain the plan's complexities. Broward County commissioners last week ignored that ban and voted to allow navigators and other counselors into county offices, including health departments.

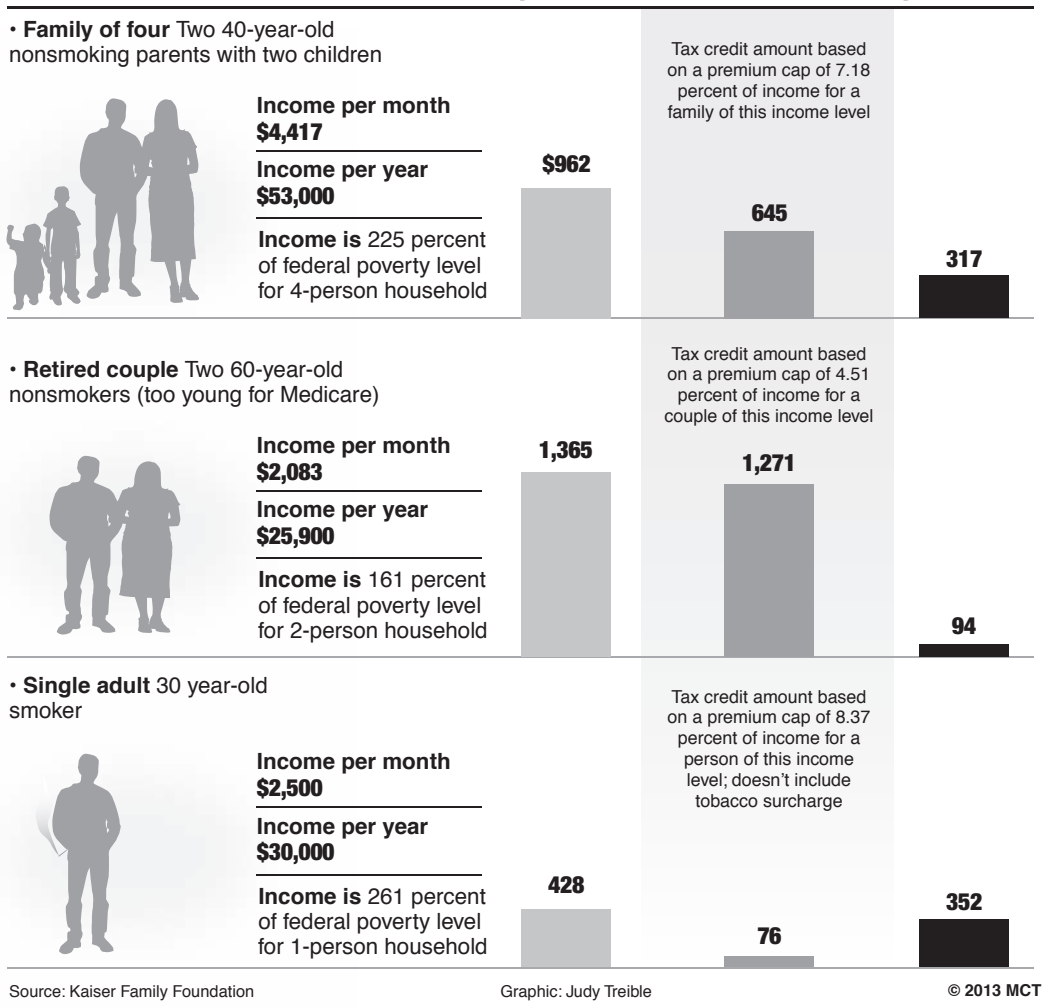
`We've encountered many, many issues with this, and this is a breakthrough for us to be able to go into the libraries, the health departments," said Jerson Dulis, who was trained to help enroll people in the state exchange.

Tax credits under new health care law

Here are three examples of how the federal tax credits will work for those enrolling in the new health insurance marketplaces under the Affordable Care Act. The tax credits will help pay for coverage for roughly 80 percent of people expected to enroll in 2014.

Who can get a tax credit? Eligible citizens and legal residents who earn between 100 percent and 400 percent of the federal poverty level

Who's eligible: Individuals earning $11,490-46,000; two-person families earning $19,530 -78,120; four-person families earning $23,550-94,200 a year


Enrollee scenarios
Monthly premium
Health care tax credit
Final monthly premium cost
• Family of four Two 40-year-old nonsmoking parents with two children
Income per month $4,417
Income per year $53,000
Income is 225 percent of federal poverty level for 4-person household
$962
Tax credit amount based on a premium cap of 7.18 percent of income for a family of this income level
645
317
• Retired couple Two 60-year-old nonsmokers (too young for Medicare)
Income per month $2,083
Income per year $25,900
Income is 161 percent of federal poverty level for 2-person household
1,365
Tax credit amount based on a premium cap of 4.51 percent of income for a couple of this income level
1,271
94
• Single adult 30 year-old smoker
Income per month $2,500
Income per year $30,000
Income is 261 percent of federal poverty level for 1-person household
428
Tax credit amount based on a premium cap of 8.37 percent of income for a person of this income level; doesn't include tobacco surcharge
76
352

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation Graphic: Judy Treible © 2013 MCT

Nation

Who'll blink? Dems, GOP in shutdown stare down

WASHINGTON (AP)—With the government teetering on the brink of partial shutdown, congressional Republicans vowed Sunday to keep using an otherwise routine federal funding bill to try to attack the president's health care law.

Congress was closed for the day after a post-midnight vote in the GOP-run House to delay by a year key parts of the new health care law and repeal a tax on medical devices, in exchange for avoiding a shutdown. The Senate was to convene Monday afternoon, just hours before the shutdown deadline, and Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., had already promised that majority Democrats would kill the House's latest volley.

Since the last government shutdown 17 years ago, temporary funding bills known as continuing resolutions have been noncontroversial, with neither party willing to chance a shutdown to achieve legislative goals it couldn't otherwise win. But with health insurance exchanges set to open on Tuesday, tea-party Republicans are willing to take the risk in their drive to kill the health care law.

Action in Washington was limited mainly to the Sunday talk shows and a barrage of press releases as Democrats and Republicans rehearsed arguments for blaming each other if the government in fact closes its doors at midnight Monday.

"You're going to shut down the government if you can't prevent millions of Americans from getting affordable care," said Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md.

"The House has twice now voted to keep the government open. And if we have a shutdown, it will only be because when the Senate comes back, Harry Reid says, `I refuse even to talk,'" said Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, who led a 21-hour broadside against allowing the temporary funding bill to advance if stripped clean of a tea party-backed provision to derail Obamacare. The effort ultimately failed.

AP

Storm clouds hang over Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, Sept. 27, 2013, as the Republican-controlled House and the Democrat-controlled Senate stand at an impasse with Congress continuing to struggle over how to fund the government and prevent a possible shutdown.

The battle started with a House vote to pass the short-term funding bill with a provision that would have eliminated the federal dollars needed to put President Barack Obama's health care overhaul into place. The Senate voted along party lines to strip that out and lobbed the measure back to the House.

The latest House measure, passed early Sunday by a near party-line vote of 231-192, sent back to the Senate two key changes: a one-year delay of key provisions of the health insurance law and repeal of a new tax on medical devices that partially funds it, steps that still go too far for The White House and its Democratic allies on Capitol Hill.

Senate rules often make it difficult to act quickly, but the chamber can act on the House's latest proposals by simply calling them up and killing them.

Eyes were turning to the House for its next move. One of its top leaders vowed the House would not simply give in to Democrats' demands to pass the Senate's "clean" funding bill.

"The House will get back together in enough time, send another provision not to shut the government down, but to fund it, and it will have a few other options in there for the Senate to look at again," said the No. 3 House Republican leader, Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California. "We are not shutting the government down."

He suggested that House Republicans would try blocking a mandate that individuals buy health insurance or face a tax penalty, saying there might be some Democratic support in the Senate for that.

On the other hand, Democrats said the GOP's bravado may fade as the deadline to avert a shutdown nears.

Asked whether he could vote for a "clean" temporary funding bill, Rep. Raul Labrador, R-Idaho, said he couldn't. But Labrador added, "I think there's enough people in the Republican Party who are willing to do that. And I think that's what you're going to see."

A leading Senate GOP moderate called on her fellow Republicans to back down.

"I disagree with the strategy of linking Obamacare with the continuing functioning of government—a strategy that cannot possibly work," said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine.

McCarthy wouldn't say what changes Republicans might make. He appeared to suggest that a very short-term measure might pass at the last minute, but GOP aides said that was unlikely.

And rumors Saturday night that GOP leaders might include a provision to deny lawmakers and staff aides their employer health care contributions from the government had cooled by Sunday afternoon. Lawmakers and congressional aides are required to purchase health insurance on the Affordable Care Act exchanges, but the administration has taken steps to make sure they continue to receive their 72 percent employer contribution.

Republicans argued that Reid should have convened the Senate on Sunday to act on the measure.

"If the Senate stalls until Monday afternoon instead of working today, it would be an act of breathtaking arrogance by the Senate Democratic leadership," said House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. "They will be deliberately bringing the nation to the brink of a government shutdown."

Comet ISON may sizzle or fizzle this fall

By CYNTHIA DIZIKES
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO—When Adler Planetarium astronomer Mark Hammergren first heard the buzz about comet ISON last fall, he felt a familiar tinge of excitement.

The brightest comet in the last century. As vivid as a full moon in the night sky over Chicago. A once-in-a-lifetime, blazing spectacle.

But as ISON zips closer to Earth's orbit, the hunk of ice and dust has done something typically cometish: upended expectations.

Compared with original estimates, ISON is already dimmer than expected, reviving bitter memories of the "great" comet Kohoutek. Hyped in 1973 as the comet of that century, Kohoutek fizzled into an unspectacular dud above the southern horizon.

Hammergren, who was a kid at the time, recalled being led outside after sunset to view the comet. But instead of a brilliant tail of gas and debris lashing the night sky, all Hammergren saw were contrails.

"There is a great saying about comets being like cats," Hammergren said. "They both have tails and they do what they want."

Indeed, the annals of astronomy are streaked by unexpected comet burnouts and breakups, but also surprising outbursts like the 2007 brightening of comet Holmes. In October of that year, the normally faint comet briefly ballooned into the largest object in the solar system when gases erupting from its surface expanded to a diameter greater than that of the sun.

Given the uncertainty, Audrey Fischer, a director of the Chicago Astronomical Society, said "every one of us is holding our breath."

Although the society has already begun to plan viewings, astronomers at the Adler and other observatories are taking a wait-and-see approach, ready to stage events if ISON should suddenly brighten or public interest spikes.

Hubble provides a close-up look of Comet ISON (C/2012 S1) from April 10, when the comet was slightly closer than Jupiter's orbit at a distance of 386 million miles from the sun. Image credit: NASA, ESA, J.-Y. Li (Planetary Science Institute), and the Hubble Comet ISON Imaging Science Team.

Comet ISON was first spotted in September 2012 by scientists working with the International Scientific Optical Network, or ISON for short. At that time, the comet was unexpectedly bright for being so far away, fueling speculation that it would grow to record-breaking radiance by the time it swung around the sun in late November.

For now, ISON can be seen in the Northern Hemisphere through a powerful telescope—a faint smudge in the constellation of Cancer about 183 million miles away from the sun, said astronomer and Northwestern University lecturer Michael Smutko.

"If you are up in the early morning hours, and you know where to (point your telescope), you can see it from Chicago," said Smutko, who has not yet been inspired to partake in a pre-dawn viewing.

By November, however, Smutko hopes that could change. ISON is expected to make the celestial equivalent of a flyby when it passes 730,000 miles above the sun's surface on Nov. 28.

Police: Daughter killed Pa. mom with shotgun

PITTSBURGH (AP)—A two-decade family feud came to a violent end when a man shot dead the two home invaders that killed his wife and son, not knowing the assailants included his long-estranged daughter, authorities said Sunday.

Though the investigation of Friday's shootings continues, authorities said it appears Josephine and Jeffrey Ruckinger planned to murder her family at their rural central Pennsylvania home—but it remains unclear what exactly led to the deadly confrontation.

"They parked at the bottom of a long driveway, and walked up, heavily armed," said Cambria County District Attorney Kelly Callihan.

Josephine Ruckinger was armed with a sawed-off 12-gauge shotgun and her husband had a Derringer pistol and a .22-caliber semi-automatic handgun as they approached the Frew family home in Ashville, about 40 miles southwest of State College, according to investigators.

John Frew, his wife Roberta, and their son John Jr., 47, had just returned from dinner out, and were watching TV in the living room of the white mobile home when there was a knock at the door, authorities said.

Police say Roberta, 64, answered the door, and cried out something like "Oh my God, they have guns!" before her daughter shot her at point-blank range. John Jr. then may have attempted to arm himself with a gun, but Jeffrey Ruckinger shot him multiple times in the chest, killing him, police said.

Asia

Car bomb kills 40 in northwest Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A car bomb ripped through a crowded street in Peshawar's oldest bazaar Sunday, killing 40 people in the third blast to hit the troubled Pakistani city in a week, officials said. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

The explosion appeared to have been caused by a bomb planted in a parked car and detonated by remote control, said police officer Zahid Khan. It went off near a mosque and a police station, damaging the house of worship and nearby shops and engulfing many vehicles in flames, police said.

At least 40 people were killed and 90 wounded, said Jamil Shah, a spokesman for Lady Reading Hospital, where the victims were taken.

Such attacks in Peshawar, in northwestern Pakistan, have claimed more than 140 lives since last Sunday, when two suicide bombers blew themselves up in a crowd of worshippers at a church, killing 85 people. On Friday, 19 people died when a bomb planted on a bus carrying government employees exploded in the Peshawar outskirts.

The Sunni militant group Jundullah claimed responsibility for the church attack, saying it targeted Christians to avenge the deaths of Muslims killed by U.S. drone strikes.

A Pakistani man carries an injured child away from the site of a car bomb attack in Peshawar, Pakistan, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013. AP

The dead included 14 members of a single family who were visiting Peshawar to plan a wedding along with their driver and an assistant, said relatives. Mohammad Alam said the group had come to Peshawar from a nearby village to invite him to their son's wedding. He said they were in a van when the bomb exploded.

A bookshop owner, Nazar Ali, had just opened his shop when the bomb went off.

"It was a huge blast that was followed by fire in vehicles. Thick black smoke covered the air and splinters spread all over. I saw people lying dead and bleeding all over," he said.

Many of the old buildings in the historic Qissa Khawani market are made of wood, which easily caught fire, said senior police officer Shafqat Malik. People bloodied and covered with ash ran from the scene, one man carrying a young child whose face appeared blackened from soot.

The new government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has said it would like to negotiate with the militants to end the bloodshed, but so far those efforts have made little progress.

On Saturday, a spokesman for the Taliban said Sharif's demand that the militants lay down their weapons and respect the constitution indicated the new leader is not serious about peace talks. Previously Sharif had not given preconditions for the talks.

Sharif "showed that he is following the policy of America and its allies," the spokesman said. "We will hold talks with (the government) only when it gets the real power to take decisions."

Also in northwestern Pakistan, two missiles from an American drone hit a compound in North Waziristan on Sunday, killing three militants affiliated with the Punjab province branch of the Pakistani Taliban, said two intelligence officers. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

The Pakistan government condemned both the bomb blast and the drone attack.

ASIA BRIEFS

Death toll hits 29 in Indonesia boat sinking

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—The death toll in the sinking of a boat carrying asylum seekers off Indonesia's coast rose to 29 on Sunday, with dozens more believed to still be missing, an official said. The boat, believed to be carrying about 100 people, capsized Friday off West Java's Sukabumi district after being hit by high waves. Rescuers found eight bodies in three separate places Sunday, said Capt. Warsono, police chief of Agrabinta in the neighboring district of Cianjur. The number of survivors also increased from 28 to 35, added Warsono, who like many Indonesians uses a single name. He did not disclose where or how the survivors were found. The search for survivors is scheduled to resume Monday.

Sectarian tensions flare in Myanmar town

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Tension was high in a northwestern Myanmar town late Sunday after Buddhist mobs torched two homes belonging to Muslims and security forces were placed on high alert. Win Myaing, a government spokesman in the restive state of Rakhine, said the trouble started in the coastal town of Thandwe on Saturday after a Buddhist taxi driver told police he had been verbally abused by a Muslim small business owner while trying to park in front of his shop. Police took the Muslim man in for questioning. But when he was released soon after, people became angry and started throwing stones at his home. Myaing said at least two houses had been burned down by Sunday night. Security forces were trying to restore order.

Chinese ex-banker sentenced for ID fakery

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese court on Sunday sentenced a former banking official who amassed a real estate empire of at least 45 properties under multiple fake identities to three years in jail, state media reported. Gong Ai'ai was a former vice president of a rural bank who came to be known as "Sister House" among the Chinese public and fueled public demands that officials declare their assets. The official Xinhua News Agency said Gong was convicted Sunday of charges of forging, buying and selling state identification papers. Calls to the court, the Jingbian County People's Court in northern Shaanxi province, rang unanswered. The prosecution against Gong is one of several high-profile anti-graft cases since Xi Jinping became China's leader last fall with calls for renewed efforts to fight corruption.

Filipino troops kill 7 rebels after hostage crisis

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine troops killed seven more Muslim rebels in gunbattles in the coastal outskirts of a southern city they were clearing of bodies, bombs, weapons and possible booby traps following a three-week standoff with insurgents who held scores of people hostage, officials said Sunday.

Army troops and special police forces killed six Moro National Liberation Front rebels who were hiding in a house in Zamboanga city's Santa Barbara community Sunday and refused to surrender. Another rebel was slain by troops in a clash Saturday in nearby Rio Hondo, one of five communities occupied by nearly 500 insurgents on Sept. 9, military spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala said.

Troops recovered seven assault rifles and a grenade launcher used by the slain rebels, he said.

"Definitely the worst is over," Zagala told reporters, but added that it would be dangerous for residents to return until government forces have finished a two-week inspection of the battered communities.

Defense and military officials declared the rebel standoff and hostage crisis over Saturday, saying 195 residents seized by the rebels as human shields had been rescued safely, escaped or were freed. More than 4,000 troops and police killed 190 rebels, while 292 other insurgents were either captured or surrendered out of exhaustion and after running out of food and ammunition.

While troops remained as a backup force, police took charge Sunday of the house-to-house inspections in search of any more rebel holdouts and the dangerous leftovers from the standoff, which paralyzed the port city of nearly a million people.

Mayor Isabelle Climaco-Salazar said Zamboanga's city hall would be reopened Monday. A tribute will be given to the 18 soldiers, five police officers and about a dozen civilians who died in the rebel siege in the bustling port, which has crawled back to life after the fierce clashes that displaced about 130,000 people—more than a tenth of the city's population.

Zamboanga officials were working on a plan to rebuild hard-hit communities, where nearly 10,000 houses were burned by the rebels or got destroyed in the fighting. Officials will have to continue feeding and tending to tens of thousands of displaced residents who remained in 32 emergency shelters and have to be relocated to temporary settlements at some point, Climaco-Salazar said.

Authorities were trying to determine whether Habier Malik, the most prominent of seven rebel commanders who led the siege, was dead. Troops found Malik's rebel identification card in one of the clothes of a slain rebel who resembled him, sparking speculation that he may have been killed.

A military official, however, said the slain rebel was Malik's aide, who also kept his international driver's license and temporary resident's certificate in Saudi Arabia, where the rebel commander once lived with his wife.

China says 75 missing in typhoon; Vietnam prepares

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Tens of thousands of people were being evacuated from high-risk areas in central Vietnam on Monday as a typhoon that sank at least two Chinese fishing ships neared the coast.

A total of 75 fishermen are missing after three vessels encountered strong winds near the Paracel Islands, according to a statement on the website of the Hainan government in south China. Two of the vessels sank Sunday and contact with the third has been lost, it said.

Typhoon Wutip was expected to hit the central coast later Monday with sustained winds of up to 93 miles per hour and gusts up to 125 mph, Vietnam's weather forecaster said. Heavy rains were expected.

Disaster official Le Tri Cong said more than 8,000 villagers in Quang Tri province's coastal areas were evacuated to safe places as of Sunday night and 35,000 others from areas facing with serious flooding, landslides and flash floods are being evacuated.

More than 140,000 people in four other central provinces are planned for evacuation Monday, the central floods and storms control committee said on its website.

Schools in five central provinces were closed and coast guards told 61,000 fishing boats with 303,000 crew members to take shelter, the committee said.

Two government teams were dispatched to direct the preparation efforts, the committee said.

Wutip is the strongest typhoon to hit Vietnam this season. The most powerful Asian tropical storm this year was Typhoon Usagi, which caused at least 33 deaths in the Philippines and China earlier this month.

Vietnam is prone to floods and storms which kill hundreds of people and cause millions of dollars in damage each year.

World

Nigeria: Militants kill students in college attack

OTISKUM, Nigeria (AP)—Suspected Islamic extremists attacked an agricultural college in the dead of night, gunning down dozens of students as they slept in dormitories and torching classrooms, the school's provost said—the latest violence in northeastern Nigeria's ongoing Islamic uprising.

The attack, blamed on the Boko Haram extremist group, came despite a 4 1/2-month-old state of emergency covering three states and one-sixth of the country. It and other recent violence have led many to doubt assurances from the government and the military that they are winning Nigeria's war on the extremists.

Provost Molima Idi Mato of Yobe State College of Agriculture told The Associated Press that there were no security forces protecting the college. Two weeks ago, the state commissioner for education had begged schools and colleges to reopen and promised they would be guarded by soldiers and police.

Idi Mato said as many as 50 students may have been killed in the assault that began at about 1 a.m. Sunday in rural Gujba. "They attacked our students while they were sleeping in their hostels. They opened fire at them," he said, adding that most victims were aged between 18 and 22.

AP

In this image taken with a mobile phone, rescue workers and family members gather to identify the shrouded bodies of students killed following an attack by Islamist extremist on an agricultural college in Gujba, Nigeria, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013.

Soldiers recovered 42 bodies and transported 18 wounded students to Damaturu Specialist Hospital, 40 kilometers (25) miles north, said a military intelligence official who insisted on anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the press.

Two of the wounded later died, said Adamu Usman, a survivor from Gujba who was helping at the hospital.

President Goodluck Jonathan condemned the attack in a televised "chat with the media" Sunday night, and questioned the motives of Boko Haram, which wants to impose Islamic law across Nigeria. He said he wondered whether the victims were Muslim or Christian.

Usman said almost all those killed were Muslims, as is the majority of the college's student body.

Jonathan likened the assault to that on Nairobi's premier shopping mall last week, where Islamic extremists from Somalia's al-Shabab movement killed 67 civilians—but only after allowing many Muslims to leave. Boko Haram has said some of its fighters trained with al-Shabab in Somalia.

Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau has said in video addresses that his group wants to end democracy in Nigeria and allow education only in Islamic schools. Boko Haram means "Western education is forbidden."

Its uprising poses the biggest security challenge in years to this country. Nigeria is Africa's biggest oil producer and its most populous nation with more than 160 million people—almost equal numbers of which are Muslims and Christians.

Boko Haram militants have killed more than 1,700 people since 2010.

"Sometimes you need courage" to confront such challenges, Jonathan said, accusing the extremists of choosing soft targets to embarrass his government.

Gov. Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe state, where the killings occurred, indicated that the military crackdown is ineffective.

"Although there is (an) increase in troop movement and military hardware deployment in the northeast, people are yet to see the kind of action on the ground that effectively nips criminal and terrorist activities in the bud," he said in a statement.

The extremists rode into the college in two double-cabin pickup all-terrain vehicles and on motorcycles, some dressed in Nigerian military uniforms, a surviving student, Ibrahim Mohammed, told the AP. He said they appeared to know the layout of the college, attacking the four male hostels but avoiding the one hostel reserved for women.

"We ran into the bush, nobody is left in the school now," Mohammed said.

Wailing relatives gathered outside the hospital morgue, where workers laid out bloody bodies in an orderly row on the lawn for family members to identify loved ones.

Nairobi morgue's last victim from mall is ID'd

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Karen Wambui walked slowly through the Nairobi city morgue's turquoise and yellow iron gates, still trying to process what she had seen inside.

She had just confirmed that the last body still there from the Westgate Mall attack nearly a week earlier was that of her son, Calan Munyaka.

The 27-year-old was one of 37 victims of the al-Shabab terrorist assault whose bodies were brought to the single-story main morgue building in the Kenyan capital, where a crucifix is nailed above the wooden entrance doors and the smell of the dead drifts out the open windows. Other bodies were taken to city hospitals and elsewhere.

For nearly a week, Munyaka lay in the morgue, identified only as "Kenyan male, adult."

On Friday afternoon, the pathologists pulled Munyaka's corpse from a refrigerated chamber and showed Wambui.

"I've just seen a gunshot," she said, wiping her eyes with a light blue sweatshirt. "Here," she added, pointing to the left side of her neck.

Officials say at least 61 civilians and six security troops were killed in the four-day takeover of the mall by the al-Qaida-linked militant group. With the Kenyan Red Cross reporting an additional 59 people still missing, the toll is expected to rise and the morgue may fill up again, though the government maintains it has no reports of anyone unaccounted for.

Over the weekend at the city's main cemetery on Langata Road, a single gravedigger labored in the morning sun, clawing away at the deep-red soil with a shovel and pitchfork in preparation for more burials.

The Westgate Mall was packed with midday Saturday shoppers on Sept. 21 when the teams of al-Shabab gunmen stormed the building and opened fire. Authorities believe as many as 15 attackers were involved, but only six of their bodies have been identified so far—five who were said to have been killed by security forces' gunfire and one who died in the rubble of the building's collapsed roof.

The Nairobi mall was patronized by the Kenyan elite and wealthy foreigners, but Calan Munyaka was neither of those. He sold clothes for a living but didn't work at the mall, his mother said. Her last conversation with him was by telephone two weeks earlier, and he was excited, introducing her to his new fiancee and announcing she was a month pregnant. He worked out plans with his mother for the three of them to meet in person next month.

Thousands protest as Sudan officials promise cash

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP)—Thousands of Sudanese protesters took to the streets of the capital Khartoum late Sunday, chanting "freedom" and renewing calls for their longtime autocratic president to resign after dozens of protesters were killed in a week of demonstrations sparked by austerity measures.

The government, which has imposed a media blackout, moved to appease the rancor with cash, saying it would distribute cash to half a million families to offset higher fuel and food prices in a country where nearly half the population lives below the poverty line.

The street demonstrations, which began after subsides were lifted last week, have been the most widespread in Sudan since Omar al-Bashir seized power 24 years ago.

Waving pictures of slain protesters, thousands held a Sunday-night memorial for Salah al-Sanhouri, a demonstrator shot Friday during an earlier protest in Burri, an old Khartoum district.

Women called for the "downfall of the regime" and chanted "freedom, peace and justice, revolution is the choice of people."

Residents cheered on the marchers from rooftops while nearby security forces were stationed in pick-up trucks carrying mounted machine guns near the spot where al-Sanhouri was shot.

"The protests will continue and will reach a general strike. This is our aim," said Ghazi al-Sanhouri, a nephew of the slain protester. "We will keep uncovering the regime's brutal tactics in suppressing the protests by killings and atrocities."

Al-Sanhouri's father, Moudthir al-Reih, told The Associated Press: "this regime will come to an end ... God willing it will be over."

WORLD BRIEFS

Chemical weapons inspectors outline Syria plan

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Inspectors who will oversee Syria's destruction of its chemical weapons said Sunday their first priority is to help the country scrap its ability to manufacture such arms by a Nov. 1 deadline—using every means possible. The chemical weapons inspectors said that may include smashing mixing equipment with sledgehammers, blowing up delivery missiles, driving tanks over empty shells or filling them with concrete, and running machines without lubricant so they seize up and become inoperable. On Friday, the U.N. Security Council ordered the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to help Syria destroy its chemical weapons by mid-2014.

Israel's Netanyahu warns White House about Iran

JERUSALEM (AP)—Mortified that the world may be warming up to Iran, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is taking an unpopular message to the White House and the United Nations this week: Don't be fooled by Tehran's new leadership. Netanyahu contends Iran is using conciliatory gestures as a smoke screen to conceal an unabated march toward a nuclear bomb. He will deliver those strong words of caution—and fresh intelligence—in an attempt to persuade the U.S. to maintain tough economic sanctions and not allow the Islamic republic to develop a bomb or even move closer to becoming a nuclear threshold state.

IOC chief receives Russian 'assurances' over gays

ANCIENT OLYMPIA, Greece (AP)—New IOC President Thomas Bach said Sunday he had received assurances from senior Russian officials and games organizers that an ongoing controversy over the country's treatment of gays will not affect athletes at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. Russia has come under international criticism from human rights and gay groups after passing legislation outlawing the promotion of homosexuality. Bach said he again raised the issue with Sochi organizers while attending the Olympic flame lighting ceremony at Ancient Olympia in southern Greece. The German Olympic fencing champion was elected to head the International Olympic Committee on Sept. 10.

Focus

Terrorists used new tactic to spare some Muslims

By RUKMINI CALLIMACHI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP

This photo released by the Kenya Presidency shows the collapsed upper car park of the Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya Thursday, Sept. 26, 2013.

The turbaned gunmen who infiltrated Nairobi's Westgate mall arrived with a set of religious trivia questions: As terrified civilians hid in toilet stalls, behind mannequins, in ventilation shafts and underneath food court tables, the assailants began a high-stakes game of 20 Questions to separate Muslims from those they consider infidels.

A 14-year-old boy saved himself by jumping off the mall's roof, after learning from friends inside that they were quizzed on names of the Prophet Muhammad's relatives. A Jewish man scribbled a Quranic scripture on his hand to memorize, after hearing the terrorists were asking captives to recite specific verses. Numerous survivors described how the attackers from al-Shabab, a Somali cell which recently joined al-Qaida, shot people who failed to provide the correct answers.

Their chilling accounts, combined with internal al-Shabab documents discovered earlier this year by The Associated Press, mark the final notch in a transformation within the global terror network, which began to rethink its approach after its setbacks in Iraq. Al-Qaida has since realized that the indiscriminate killing of Muslims is a strategic liability, and hopes instead to create a schism between Muslims and everyone else, whom they consider "kuffar," or apostates.

"What this shows is al-Qaida's acknowledgment that the huge masses of Muslims they have killed is an enormous PR problem within the audience they are trying to reach," said Daveed Gartenstein-Ross, director of the Center for the Study of Terrorist Radicalization. "This is a problem they had documented and noticed going back to at least Iraq. And now we see al-Qaida groups are really taking efforts to address it."

The evolution of al-Shabab is reflected in a set of three documents believed to be written by the terrorist group, and found by the AP in northern Mali earlier this year. They include the minutes of a conference of 85 Islamic scholars, held in December 2011 in Somalia, as well as a summary of fatwas they issued last year after acceptance into the al-Qaida fold.

Baptized with the name al-Shabab, meaning The Youth, in 2006, the group began as an extremist militia, fighting the government of Somalia. As early as 2009, it began courting al-Qaida, issuing recordings with titles like, "At Your Service Osama."

Until the Westgate attack, the group made no effort to spare Muslim civilians, hitting packed restaurants, bus stations and a government building where hundreds of students were awaiting test results. And until his death in 2011, Osama bin Laden refused to allow Shabab into the al-Qaida network, according to letters retrieved from his safehouse in Pakistan. The letters show that the terror leader was increasingly troubled by regional jihadi operations killing Muslim civilians.

In a letter to Shabab in 2010, bin Laden politely advised the Somali-based fighters to review their operations "in order to minimize the toll to Muslims." Shabab did not get the green light to join al-Qaida until February 2012, almost a year after bin Laden's death.

In an email exchange this week with The Associated Press, it made its intentions clear: "The Mujahideen carried out a meticulous vetting process at the mall and have taken every possible precaution to separate the Muslims from the Kuffar before carrying out their attack." However, even at Westgate, al-Shabab still killed Muslims, who were among the more than 60 civilians gunned down inside.

Their attack was timed to coincide with the highest traffic at the upscale mall after 12:30 p.m. on Sept. 21, a Saturday. More than 1,000 people, including diplomats, pregnant women with strollers and foreign couples, were inside when the fighters armed with grenades and AK-47s burst in and opened fire. At first the attack had the indiscriminate character of all of Shabab's previous assaults.

Rutvik Patel, 14, was in the aisles at Nakumatt, the mall's supermarket which sells everything from plasma TVs to imported kiwis, when he heard the first explosion. "They started shooting continuously, and whoever died, died," he said. "Then it became calm and they came up to people and began asking them some questions. If you knew the answer, they let you go," he said. "They asked the name of the Prophet's mom. They asked them to sing a religious verse."

Just across from the Nakumatt supermarket, a 31-year-old Jewish businessman was cashing a check inside the local Barclays branch when he, too, heard the shooting. The people there ran to the back and shut themselves in the room with the safe, switching off the lights. They learned, via text messages, that the extremists were asking people to recite an Arabic prayer called the Shahada.

"One of the women who was with us got a text from her husband saying, they're asking people to say the Islamic oath, and if you don't know it, they kill you," said the businessman, who insisted on anonymity out of fear for his safety.

He threw away his passport. Then he downloaded the Arabic prayer and wrote it on his palm.

Al-Shabab's attempts to identify Muslims are clear in the 16-page transcript from the conference of Islamic scholars held in the Somali town of Baidoa, an area known to be under Shabab control in 2011, according to Somalia specialist Kenneth Menkhaus, a political science professor at Davidson College in North Carolina. The scholars issued several fatwas defining exactly who was a Muslim and who was an apostate.

The document states it is halal, or lawful, to kill and rob those who commit crimes against Islam: "The French and the English are to be treated equally: Their blood and their money are halal wherever they may be. No Muslim in any part of the world may cooperate with them in any way. ... It leads to apostasy and expulsion from Islam," it says. Further on it adds: "Accordingly, Ethiopians, Kenyans, Ugandans and Burundians are just like the English and the French because they have invaded the Islamic country of Somalia."

Former FBI supervisory special agent Ali Soufan, who investigated the bombing of the United States embassies in East Africa as well as the attack on the USS Cole, said that the gathering of dozens of religious scholars in an area under Shabab control harkens back to an al-Qaida conference in Afghanistan around 1997. That conference defined America as a target, Soufan said, leading to the bombing of American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998.

"You see something very similar here," said Soufan. "It's the same playbook."

In a second document dated Feb. 29, 2012—just two weeks after al-Shabab joins al-Qaida—the organization warns Muslims to stay away from buildings occupied by non-Muslims, chillingly predicting and justifying the death of Muslims at Westgate.

"And so all Muslims must stay far away from the enemy and their installations so as not to become human shields for them, and so as not to be hurt by the blows of the mujahedeen directed at the Crusader enemies," it says. "There is no excuse for those who live or mingle with the enemies in their locations."

Yet at the same time it says: "The mujahideen are sincere in wanting to spare the blood of their brother Muslims, and they don't want a Muslim to die from the bullets directed at the enemies of God."

Al-Shabab: Profile of the terrorist organization

Al-Shabab, a militant organization that announced its merger with al-Qaida in 2012, controls most of southern Somalia. The U.S. designated it a terrorist organization in 2008.

Somalia
Population **9.9 million**
GDP per capita **$600***
Literacy rate **37.8 percent**
Median age **17.8 years**

*2010 figure using the purchasing power parity conversion method

Source: Tribune Newspapers reporting, Council on Foreign Relations, CIA World Factbook, Reuters, BBC
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

History and operations

Al-Shabab, which means "the youth," is the militant offshoot of the Islamic council that took control of southern Somalia in late 2006; though those forces were defeated, the group maintains an insurgent presence in the region, controlling towns in southern Somalia; the group's forces were pushed out of Mogadishu in 2011; organization estimated to have 7,000 to 9,000 fighters, including foreign jihadists

Leadership and members

Group is divided into four loosely affiliated geographical groups; these groups appear to operate independently of each other; U.S.-born Abu

Mansur al-Amriki, pictured, joined al-Shabab in 2007; he starred in propaganda videos and become the recognizable face of the group until he was reportedly killed on Sept. 12 of this year after a falling out with top leadership

Tactics

Al-Shabab started its insurgency in 2006 using guerrilla tactics to attempt to overthrow the Somalian government and its African Union and Ethiopian supporters; in 2008, the group began to ingrain itself in south Sudan by taking control of towns using political strategies; the group continues to launch suicide attacks. Al-Shabab seeks to impose a strict version of Shariah, or Islamic law

Terrorist attacks

Group is considered to be responsible for several suicide attacks and assassinations targeting Somali government officials, peace activists and journalists; Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for a pair of bombings that killed more than 70 people in Kampala, Uganda, on July 11, 2010, during the World Cup Final; has taken responsibility for attack on the Westgate mall in Nairobi, Kenya

© 2013 MCT

Overdrive

Cadenza shouts that Kia has arrived

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

The 2014 Kia Cadenza is the automaker's attempt to break into the luxury-sedan segment. KIA/MCT

Big, regal sedans wore propellers or stars on their hoods a decade or so ago—imposing executive expressions as ruthlessly polished as their owners.

Bimmers, Benzes and others had a finely stirred mix of performance, head-turning style and leather-soaked luxury that no mainstream sedan could hope to match.

They glistened in traffic like a gold Rolex on a rich man's tanned arm.

Meanwhile, we got Ford Tauruses and Nissan Maximas. Whoopee.

But here's a little secret about the auto industry today: While the rich eat more cake than ever—and can still buy and sell most of us over French appetizers before $50 lunches—the class gap continues to narrow in cars.

Sure, you can spend six figures on some silver German missile that will drive itself in traffic while reading your emails to you, and then effortlessly whisk you to that SEC hearing downtown at 100 mph.

But $100,000 peasant-mashing sedans today are no longer twice as good as the plebeian $40,000 ones.

And believe it or not, we can add Kia to the growing list of contributors to this egalitarian cause.

Once the builder of tinny cars of last resort—compacts that beat-down people bought because they had no other choices—Kia has broken free of its dismal past.

Take a look at the 2014 Cadenza, the Korean automaker's first true near-luxury, full-size sedan and a prelude to a bigger high-end sedan in the near future.

Though the Cadenza shares its front-wheel-drive platform and direct-injected V-6 with sister company Hyundai, it looks and feels distinctly different.

In fact, I think the Cadenza firmly establishes Kia as the style leader among Asian vehicles.

Granted, the Cadenza and the new Chevy Impala and Toyota Avalon lack the cachet of a BMW or Mercedes-Benz or Audi, but all wear nicely tailored suits these days.

The metallic gray Cadenza I had recently even looked like a rear-wheel-drive luxury sedan.

It had unusually long front fenders and hood, elements you don't typically see on front-wheel-drive vehicles.

Kia's signature "tiger-nose" grille in black was flanked by long headlamps stretched relatively low on the front fenders.

A slightly raised hood flowed into a sharply raked windshield, curving top and classically short trunk.

Meanwhile, two well-placed character lines brought some sinew to the sides of the 3,800-pound sedan.

Its striking silhouette looked Audi-esque to my hick eyes.

And like an Audi, it rolled on stylish 19-inch wheels shod with 245/40 tires.

With a window sticker price of $41,900, the Cadenza was hardly inexpensive.

NUTS & BOLTS

2014 Kia Cadenza

- Type of vehicle: Front-wheel-drive, five-passenger, full-size sedan
- Fuel economy: 19 miles per gallon city, 28 highway
- Weight: 3,789 pounds
- Engine: 3.3-liter V-6 with 293 horsepower and 255 pound-feet of torque
- Transmission: Six-speed automatic
- Performance: 0 to 60 mph in 6.2 seconds
- Base price, excluding destination charge: $35,100
- Price as tested: $41,900

Sources: Kia Motors America; Car and Driver

But it possessed some fairly premium content, including a lively 293-horsepower V-6, smooth six-speed automatic and well-tuned suspension.

The car's hip black-and-white interior felt even richer—albeit somewhat impractical.

Most of the elements inside made sense. A deep black dash rolled around a hooded instrument panel stitched nicely on the edges.

The center stack, which included a navigation/entertainment screen, was horizontally shaped and much more subtle than the big vertical units in some Hyundais and Fords that look like televisions glued to the dash.

Gray Zebrano-style wood covered the console and provided trim for the black door panels.

As much as I admired the appearance of the Cadenza's white leather seats—with stitched bolsters and perforated centers—I wondered how long they would stay clean in the dirty, dusty real world.

About two weeks, maybe—and that's if you don't have jelly-encrusted kids.

But, hey, those seats will impress your neighbors and that guy you know with the chopped lime-green '49 Merc.

At least the head- and legroom in back were expansive.

So, for the most part, was the Cadenza's performance, especially for a heavy sedan powered by a smallish V-6.

Thanks to direct fuel injection and high compression, the 3.3-liter V-6 was highly responsive, stepping briskly away from stops with even mild nudges to the accelerator pedal.

Low-end torque was not great, but the engine was smooth and eager and got stronger in the midrange.

If I stood on it hard from a stop, the front wheels would squirm some from the sudden burst of power. But most of the time, I had to work to generate any real drama.

Nonetheless, with help from the six-speed automatic, the Cadenza sprinted to 60 mph in an impressive 6.2 seconds, according to Car and Driver. It is also rated at 19 miles per gallon in town and 28 on the highway, which is not great but acceptable for a big sedan.

Like every Kia or Hyundai I've driven, the Cadenza's steering felt light and a bit fuzzy—but quick.

For some reason, Hyundai-Kia continues to struggle with tuning its electric steering-assist units for better feel.

The ride, however, felt as German as sauerkraut: firm yet compliant, and nicely sorted-out over most surfaces. In corners, the body remained well-controlled with modest lean. Though turn-in to corners was not sharp, the Cadenza kept its composure and balance.

Still, it mostly excels at chewing up highways in high fashion.

The Cadenza, incidentally, shares a basic platform with the midsized Optima, but the Cadenza is 5 inches longer and gets different sub-frames.

Considering how far Kia has come, the Cadenza should be a high-water mark for the company—a sedan with better styling and driving dynamics than its Japanese competitors.

Requiring premium gas actually makes sense

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: Why do some car manufacturers build cars requiring premium fuel? With the price difference between premium and regular, aren't they putting themselves at a disadvantage? I am determined that my next car will run on regular and I'd guess that many others feel the same way.

ANSWER: You might be overreacting a bit. Carmakers who build models requiring premium also build models that call for regular, so I don't see any disadvantage. The simple answer as to why is this: Higher octane fuel allows higher-compression engines that produce more power.

A good example of this is our 2010 turbocharged Volkswagen Passat, which requires premium fuel. The same vehicle with the non-turbo engine calls for regular octane fuel. The fact that there are many premium fuel models sold annually confirms that "many others feel the same way"—pay your money and take your choice.

Q: We have a 2003 Ford Excursion 7.3 diesel that we absolutely love except for one thing. Sometimes when you start the car, the radio dash lights do not come on, which means the radio isn't working along with that no air conditioning, no power windows and no garage door opener. Then everything magically starts working again some minutes later. It can be a real pain, particularly if you need to operate one of those items and just never know when it will work again. Any ideas of what might be causing this?

A: The most likely culprit is a worn ignition switch. When you turn the key to the "on" position, the switch may not be fully closing the contacts or the lock cylinder may not be rotating the switch far enough to electrically connect the power accessories you've listed. Have you tried wiggling the key in the "on" position once the truck has been started? Fortunately, the switch itself can be electrically tested to confirm whether it's the problem. A new switch is under $35 and only takes about 30 minutes to install.

Q: Three dash warning lights stay lit while driving my 2002 Buick Regal. When the car is first started, the "TRAC off," "service engine soon" and "anti-lock" warning lights go out after the initial startup test like they are supposed to, but as soon as I shift out of park, all three warning lights come on and stay on until I turn the car off. And, no, I haven't had the codes read yet. Any ideas?

A: Your question to me is premature. Scanning the computer for DTC fault codes is the first step. Without specific codes pointing to the precise source of the problem or problems, all I can tell you is that both the traction control and ABS are disabled. Since the TCS can be switched on/off, the problem is more likely in the ABS. A relatively simple cause is outlined in GM service bulletin 03-05-25-008, dated October 2003, pointing to the possibility that the harness for the front wheel speed sensors could potentially wear through from contact with a front tie-rod. A more serious and expensive issue would be a problem with the electronic brake control module, or EBCM.

Q: What would cause the edge of a piston to burn away on 2003 8.1-liter Mercruiser motor? It then pumped all oil out of the dipstick tube.

A: A burned-away edge of a piston is a classic sign of too-high operating temperatures in that cylinder. Is this the only cylinder damaged? Or are there signs of the same issue in other cylinders? Check the spark plugs for whitish or burned electrodes, which might confirm a carburetor or ignition problem—too little fuel and/or too much spark advance.

But remember, water circulation through the engine and cooling jackets is critical. If something restricted water pick-up in the lower unit or the water pump impeller failed, the engine would overheat very quickly.

Once the piston edge burned away, cylinder compression pressurized the crankcase, forcing oil out of the dipstick tube.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, *is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at:* Star Tribune, *425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.*

Life & Style

Iceland's wild scenery and tax breaks lure Hollywood

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP)—It has doubled as an alien planet, a Himalayan peak and even the snow-filled fantasy world of the "Game of Thrones." Still recovering from financial collapse, Iceland can perhaps be forgiven for seeking alternate identities.

And Hollywood is providing the remote North Atlantic island much needed revenue and jobs—as well as a touch of glamour—as it struggles to emerge from its nationwide banking and currency debacle. The country's unique environment, along with generous tax incentives, continues to attract some of the biggest Hollywood filmmakers and television producers.

"The main factor is the incredible landscape that we have," said Einar Sveinn Thordarson, the director of marketing for Pegasus, which provides production services for HBO's "Game of Thrones"; the hit series has filmed in Iceland three times. "It's very unique, and that's what inspires people the most."

This summer, about 300 crewmembers spent two weeks at Iceland's Thingvellir National Park, shooting for the upcoming fourth season.

Game of Thrones producer Chris Newman told Icelandic news website Visir this summer that they were creating the Westeros world in the drama—and that Iceland fits the vision for the imaginary continent.

"I've been filming here and working here for 25 years working on and off and I know, having driven around so much, that there's so much landscape here to make the show just seem enormous," said Newman.

AP

In this photo provided by Truenorth Productions, US actor Clint Eastwood, centre, and crew members film on location for the 2006 film Flags of our Fathers, in the Reykjanes Peninsula, Iceland.

Producers have come to treasure Iceland for its strange and magnificent appearance: otherworldly black lava fields, active volcanos and gushing geysers.

The variety of locations and landscapes is a huge selling point not only for television shows, but also big Hollywood films, said Leifur Dagfinnsson, chairman and founding partner of Truenorth, which has worked on films including "The Fifth Estate"—a film about WikiLeaks and its founder, Julian Assange—and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

Director Ridley Scott chose Iceland as his alien planet for the 2012 sci-fi film "Prometheus," choosing to shoot in Iceland's northern highlands. Iceland also hosted a crew of 1,000 people for Clint Eastwood's 2006 war film "Flags of Our Fathers."

In addition to the wild landscapes, there are financial reasons to shoot in Iceland. Tax incentives lure filmmakers, as the government operates a generous reimbursement program.

Visiting film productions could get reimbursed up to 20 percent of their production costs while filming on Icelandic soil, a substantial benefit on films costing tens or hundreds of millions of dollars.

To qualify for the rebate, filmmakers must establish a company in Iceland, or create an Icelandic branch of an existing company. The filmmakers then send details about the film to Iceland's Ministry of Industry, along with an estimate of production costs. Eligible production costs do not include wages for employees who pay tax in another country.

"We wouldn't stand a chance without this rebate," said Dagfinnsson.

While Iceland's environment is beautiful, it's very unpredictable. Weather patterns change rapidly, and foreign production crews have to be ready for anything.

During filming for Ben Stiller's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," actors and crewmembers were in a battle against fierce winds.

"We were filming Walter Mitty August into September," said Dagfinnsson. "We had strong winds coming down in September when cold glacier air meets warmer air. We had Sean Penn's trailer capsize in the wind. We had to dig through (his possessions) and collect his weights so he could train in his hotel. It was that kind of weather where we were held inside the hotel for two days."

In Celebration of His New Life

†Rafael Villagomez Torres

May 25, 1944 - September 24, 2013

In his new life, he now joins his:

Wife:	Carmen Mendiola Torres
Parents:	Juana Villagomez & Joaquin Torres
Parents In-Law:	Francisca Santos & Vicente Babauta Mendiola
Brothers:	Jose V. Torres
	Vicente V. Torres
Brothers In-Law:	Juan S. Dela Cruz
	Juan S. Mendiola
	George Nada

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Children and Families:

Joaquin M. & Antonia Torres: Nicole, Nikita & Brandon (Irie & Damien), Joaquin
Jerilyn T & Dennis Teregeyo: Jonathan & Sherri, Carmana & Chris (Isaiah & Christopher Jr.), Coquina, Cara, Joaquin, Jacob
Romana T. & Pedro Kileleman : Shayna, Shawna & Joel (Joel & Carlia), Shawn, Raphael & Meagan (Ayuko), Joaquin
Vincent M. & Clarissa Torres: Vanavie & Vincent (Chase), Margarita (Ian), Chelsey, Rosanna & Jonathan (JV), Kimberly, Camille & Derek (DJ & Callie), Vincent Rafael, Vincent, Vincent Jr.
Joanna M. Torres: Levonne & Edwin (Karmeann & Ezekiel), Jovaugh (Jovaughn Jr.) Jonah Raphael
Frances T. & Leonardo Tudela: Leonardo Raphael, Lance
Ralph M. & Ruby Torres: Thomas, Tinisha, Ralph, Casilda, Jerraine, Jana
Suzie Torres & Memorino Elieisar: Franzie, Memorino Junior, Memzie
Lori Torres & Slade Adelbai

Brothers and Sisters In-Law: Jesus & Terry Castro, Ana M. & Roman Tudela, Susana Mendiola, Lydia M. Dela Cruz, Primitiva DLG. Torres

He will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions is being offered at St. Jude Church at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Holy Rosary.
Saturday, October 5, 2013, his remains will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home in San Jose to St. Jude Church at 7:45 a.m.
Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11:00 a.m., followed by interment service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Thank You and Si'Yuus Ma'ase

The Family

In this Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013 photo, Geezer Butler, left, and Ozzy Osbourne pose with props at the "Black Sabbath: 13 3D" maze at Universal Studios Halloween Horror Nights, in Universal City, Calif.

AP

FROM 3D SABBATH TO REAL 'PURGE'

Newer ways to scare

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ozzy Osbourne can't help himself.

While on a behind-the-scenes trek through a Universal Studios Hollywood attraction based on the recently released Black Sabbath album "13," Osbourne spots a bloody mannequin corpse reclining on a phony altar. Without hesitating, the gruesomely theatrical Sabbath frontman leans down and acts like he's devouring the blood from the decapitated body with his tongue.

Faced with increasingly hardcore rivals and savvy visitors, organizers of such Halloween attractions this year have conjured up several new theatrical and technological innovations in hopes of licking the competition, as well as promoting entertainment fare like horror films and records. For Sabbath, it marks the first time their tunes have been turned into a maze.

"It adds another dimension to what we do, which is incredible because we've been doing it for 45 years," said Osbourne while standing inside the attraction. "It's been a remarkable year because we had our first No. 1 album in America—believe it or not—and now this. I've never seen anything like it. I keep thinking I'm going to wake up."

"Well, don't wake up in here," joked Sabbath bassist and lyricist Geezer Butler next to him.

For the first time since Halloween Horror Nights returned to the Universal Studios backlot in 2007, creative director John Murdy has incorporated video effects into a maze. In a room inspired by the song "Electric Funeral" within Sabbath's colorful 3D realm, monitors made to look like windows broadcast explosive 3D visuals in tandem with a wind machine.

"I just thought it would be cool to have a nuclear bomb go off and our guests be in the middle of that," said Murdy.

In recent years, Halloween Horror Nights traded warrens based on long-running slash-'em-up franchises like "A Nightmare on Elm Street" for attractions inspired by more contemporary properties, such as the "Hostel" movies, "Silent Hill" video games and "The Walking Dead" television series.

The biggest challenges for Murdy and his team for this year's six Universal mazes included figuring out how to depict the freaked-out kid from "Insidious" constantly shivering in his bed while toy rocking horses galloped by themselves.

Also troublesome was how hordes of guests could be vomited on all night long by an "Evil Dead" demon.

"They're all like little science projects," said Murdy. "No matter how successful we were the previous year, our philosophy is to always treat it like it's the first year we're back in business."

Beyond the rotating attractions at Halloween Horror Nights, a few celebrities have invested in their own haunted attractions. "Hostel" filmmaker Eli Roth opened his year-round maze Goretorium in Las Vegas last year, and Neil Patrick Harris serves as one of the producers of Delusion, an annual theatrical Halloween experience taking place this year in an old Los Angeles church.

Several spooks at this year's Halloween Horror Nights are hyping new releases from the entertainment industry. Besides Sabbath's "13," there's a "scare zone" populated by actors dressed as the nasty Chucky doll from the direct-to-DVD sequel "Curse of Chucky," and a new maze incorporating supernatural elements from the "Insidious" films.

"I think it strengthens the brand," said Jason Blum, producer of "The Purge," ''Insidious" and "Paranormal Activity" horror flicks. "Because it's done so well, it also gives us a little more street cred. In the case of 'The Purge,' there's so much mythology that wasn't necessarily included in the first film, it makes it well suited to a live event."

In addition to the attractions based on both "Insidious" chapters and "The Purge" at Universal Studios, Blum and his Blumhouse production company are hosting their own Halloween event that expands on the kill-or-be-killed mythology of "The Purge" in a shuttered theater in downtown LA.

While the event will include a traditional maze in the theater's basement, "The Purge: Fear the Night" will also invite guests to freely roam around upstairs and interact with more than 40 actors portraying members of the Founding Fathers group depicted in the film. Some guests who give up their cellphone numbers may also be contacted with clues throughout the evening.

At Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, Calif., the 10 mazes that comprise the 41-year-old Knott's Scary Farm haunt are based on original storylines, not established franchises. Without such brand equity, the organizers are hoping some new tricks—such as suspending "scare-actors" from the ceiling of a magical maze—will attract victims.

For the second year, Knott's will also feature a special attraction called "Trapped," which requires advanced reservations and costs an extra $60 on top of a regular ticket.

Unlike the conga-line labyrinth structure of most haunts, "Trapped" strands no more than six visitors inside fear-inducing environments where they must overcome phobias or solve puzzles, such as eating bugs or escaping a giant rat cage, to progress through the attraction.

"It's an opportunity to do what we've never been able to do in our other mazes," said Lara Hanneman, director of technical entertainment for the theme park. "We're able to have many more interactions with our guests that go beyond just jumping out and scaring them."

REGAL CINEMAS
Bargain Shows ( ) ★Pass/Discount Restrictions Apply
REFILLABLE POPCORN BUCKET $3 REFILLS ALL YEAR LONG!
SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7
Near Joeten Superstore in San Jose MP
1-800-FANDANGO 1484#

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.705 PM

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 3D [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.(445 PM)

PRISONERS [CC,DV] (R)
Tue. - Wed.(400 PM) 720 PM

THE FAMILY [CC] (R)
Tue. - Wed.(435 PM) 735 PM

RIDDICK 3D [CC] (R)
Tue. - Wed.(430 PM) 730 PM

ONE DIRECTION EXTENDED 3D [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.715 PM

ONE DIRECTION EXTENDED 3D [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.(440 PM)

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER [CC] (NR)
Tue. - Wed.(410 PM) 710 PM

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS 3D [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.(425 PM) 725 PM

Times For 10/01 - 10/03 ©2013 www.REGmovies.com

A final session of Walter White's 'Bad' behavior

NEW YORK (AP)—Any "Breaking Bad " fan could be forgiven for concluding that Sunday's finale held no major surprises.

That's because this AMC drama series has delivered surprises, shock and OMG moments dependably since its premiere five seasons ago.

Just like it did on its final episode.

For those who don't want to be reading how yet, stop reading! And let's take a few moments for you who aren't ready to find out what happened to tear your eyes away from this article.

OK. Ready?

The finale closed the loop on a scene that began Season 5, and found Walt (series star Bryan Cranston) with a beard and a full head of hair at an Albuquerque, N.M., Denny's restaurant. There he made a swap for a different car than the Volvo he had stolen and driven cross-country from New Hampshire, where, until the final moments of last week's episode, he was holed up, a most-wanted fugitive from the law. More to the point, Walt in that deal at the Denny's men's room became the owner of a very serious rifle.

The scene, flashing forward several months ahead to Walt's 52nd birthday, was no less tantalizing than bewildering to viewers when it aired. On the finale, it revealed itself as a key piece of the series' finished puzzle.

As the finale began, Walt—cancer-stricken and a hunted man—was headed back home to Albuquerque for a last showdown.

In a byzantine and sinister arrangement with the couple who had become tycoons from a pharmaceutical company Walt co-founded but received no benefit from, Walt made sure his children would get the $10 million drug money he left behind with the couple—or else.

Walt then dropped in on his estranged wife, Skyler (Anna Gunn), who had made it plain she hated him.

"Why are you here?" she asked him coldly.

"It's over," he said, "and I needed a proper goodbye."

After all this time, he justified out loud his descent from life as a meek, ill-paid chemistry teacher to a life as a legendary drug lord. Before, he had always insisted he did it for his family, to leave them provided for after his death from his terminal cancer.

"I did it for me," he declared to Skyler. "I liked it. I was good at it. And I was alive."

Walt's former meth-cooking sidekick, Jesse Pinkman (Aaron Paul), was still enslaved to a group of bad guys forcing him to cook crystal-meth for them using the laboratory-pristine process Walt had pioneered and prospered with. Walt rescued Jesse: His assault rifle mowed down the bad guys by remote control from the trunk of his car.

Freed, Jesse was last seen speeding off, screaming in hysteria, rage and gratitude. Against all odds, he had lived to face another day.

AP

This image released by AMC shows Walter White, played by Bryan Cranston, holding his daughter Holly while hiding money behind insulation in a scene from season two of "Breaking Bad."

For Walt, the outcome was much different. As the cops descended at the scene of the mass slaughter to seize him, he was lying on the floor, dead, apparently from a stray bullet from his own rifle. An inadvertent suicide, he had successfully escaped from the law, his foes and the cancer that was stalking him.

And, yes, Walt used the ricin he had held in reserve for ages. He poisoned Lydia Rodarte-Quayle, who had shown the bad judgment to collude with Walt's enemies on more than one occasion. He substituted it for the sweetener she thought she was putting in her tea.

The episode, and series, ended with Badfinger's "Baby Blue" ("Guess I got what I deserve").

So did viewers, with a finale that was surprising in its relative lack of carnage, that tied up loose ends and seemed organically fitting, however outlandish at times ("Breaking Bad" never insisted on stark realism).

Prince George to be christened in October

LONDON (AP)—Palace officials say Britain's youngest royal, Prince George, will be christened this month in the Chapel Royal at St. James's Palace.

George—whose full name is His Royal Highness Prince George Alexander Louis of Cambridge—was born July 22. He is the first child of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and third in line to the throne.

Kensington Palace announced Friday that George will be christened on Oct. 23 by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. The palace said close members of both families will be present for the event, but did not elaborate.

Aaron Paul of 'Breaking Bad' has 'SNL' cameo

NEW YORK (AP)— "Saturday Night Live" had some fun with anticipation over Sunday's "Breaking Bad" finale with help from Aaron Paul in a surprise cameo.

Paul, who plays Walter White's drug compatriot Jesse Pinkman in the Emmy-winning AMC series, appeared in the opening segment of the new "SNL" season. He portrayed one of several average Americans joining President Barack Obama to testify to the need for health care coverage.

Paul mentioned a "friend" who badly needed health care when he got sick with cancer. "The man was a teacher with a family," interjected Obama, played by "SNL" cast member Jay Pharoah.

"He did what any of us would have done," Paul said. "He started cooking meth. And soon it wasn't just meth, it was murder. And not regular murder, he blew half a guy's face off."

AP

In a Sunday Sept. 22, 2013 file photo, Aaron Paul, left, and Bryan Cranston arrive at the 65th Primetime Emmy Awards at Nokia Theatre, in Los Angeles.

Not pleased with the example, Obama sought to usher him off the stage.

"Wait," Paul said. "You don't want to know what happened to my friend?"

"No," said Obama, shaking his head. He was joined by several people on stage for the mock presidential speech who gave Paul a stop sign.

The "Breaking Bad" series finale airs Sunday. Fans are curious about what happens to White, the cancer-stricken teacher whose desire to provide for his family turns him into a drug lord.

Former "SNL" chief writer and cast member Tina Fey was host of the late-night show's opener, drawing a connection to the past in what is shaping up as a transition year with the introduction of several new cast members.

Film about Nazi doctor is Argentina's Oscar bid

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Argentina's film academy announced Friday that its bid for this year's best foreign film at the Oscars is "Wakolda," a movie mixing fact and fiction about Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele.

Written and directed by Lucia Puenzo, the film depicts a family that unwittingly befriends the fugitive death camp doctor and even allows him to give hormone treatments behind closed doors to their undersized daughter.

"The film deals with a very uncomfortable issue, which is complicity, or a certain sympathy that some Nazis encountered on this side of the world when they fled Europe," Puenzo said earlier this month. "Regarding the history of Mengele in particular, there are many conjectures and many myths, but there's also very solid information about his time in the Southern Cone. For example, in Buenos Aires, Mengele even appeared in the telephone directory."

The film stars Diego Peretti, Elena Roger and Florencia Bado of Argentina, Natalia Oreiro of Uruguay and Alex Brendemühl of Spain.

Six Argentine films have been nominated for best foreign film at the Academy Awards, and two have won the Oscar: "The Official Story" in 1985, which was directed by Puenzo's father Luis Puenzo, and "The Secret of His Eyes" in 2009.

'Cloudy' sequel tops weekend box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2" slurped up the box office.

The animated Sony sequel featuring the voices of Bill Hader and Anna Faris opened in first place and earned $35 million in its debut weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The original "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" was showered with $30.3 million during its opening weekend in 2009.

"It's remarkable that it did as well as and surpassed the first film," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony Pictures. "The filmmakers really ratcheted it up in terms of palette and tone. It's one of those films that just draws you in. The story is fun, and there's something for the whole family."

Last week's top film, "Prisoners," slid to second place. The Warner Bros. kidnapping thriller starring Hugh Jackman and Jake Gyllenhaal nabbed $11.3 million in its second weekend, bringing its total domestic haul to $38.9 million.

Universal's Formula One tale "Rush," directed by Ron Howard and starring Chris Hemsworth, drove into the third position with $10.3 million in its second outing after expanding to 2,297 theaters in wide release.

1. **"Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2,"** $35 million.
2. **"Prisoners,"** $11.3 million ($4.1 million international).
3. **"Rush,"** $10.3 million ($5.6 million international).
4. **"Baggage Claim,"** $9.3 million.
5. **"Don Jon,"** $9 million ($500,000 international).
6. **"Insidious: Chapter 2,"** $6.7 million ($4.9 million international).
7. **"The Family,"** $3.7 million ($900,000 international).
8. **"Instructions Not Included,"** $3.4 million ($8 million international).
9. **"We're the Millers,"** $2.9 million ($7.1 million international).
10. **"Lee Daniels' The Butler,"** $2.4 million ($1.9 million international).

The weekend's other new releases—Fox Searchlight's "Baggage Claim" and Relativity's "Don Jon"—didn't have debuts quite as sunny as "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2."

"Baggage Claim," which features Paula Patton as a love-seeking flight attendant, opened in fourth place with $9.3 million.

"Don Jon" debuted at No. 5 with $9 million. The film was written, directed by and stars Joseph Gordon-Levitt, as well as Scarlett Johansson and Julianne Moore.

Overall, the box office was down more than 7 percent versus the same weekend last year, when "Hotel Transylvania" and "Looper" opened in the top two spots at the box office.

"This was a solid, post-summer weekend," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "We're heading into a time where some of the most challenging and best films of the year are going to be released, like `Gravity' and `Runner Runner.'"

Pantelion Films' "Instructions Not Included," the Spanish-language comedy starring Eugenio Derbez, earned $3.4 million in its fifth weekend at the box office, bringing its domestic total to $38.6 million and making it the highest grossing Spanish-language film of all time. The record was previously held by "Pan's Labyrinth" with $37.6 million. Overseas, "Instructions Not Included" earned an additional $8 million.

Gillian Anderson to star in London 'Streetcar'

LONDON (AP)—Former "X-Files" star Gillian Anderson is returning to the London stage next year as Blanche DuBois in "A Streetcar Named Desire."

Anderson will play the fading beauty who relies on the kindness of strangers in a Young Vic production of Tennessee Williams' steamy southern drama.

The theater said Friday that the production, directed by Benedict Andrews, will open in summer 2014. Dates have not been announced.

Anderson was nominated for an Olivier Award—British theater's highest honor—for her performance in Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House" at London's Donmar Warehouse in 2009.

She recently played a police officer in TV thriller "The Fall" and remains known to millions as Agent Scully in the supernatural detective series "The X-Files."

Mastectomy fails to chase man from new wife's side

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am writing in response to "Anonymous in Wisconsin" (Aug. 11), the cancer survivor whose husband has lost interest in her after her double mastectomy. I am OUTRAGED by his insensitivity and lack of love. She says she doesn't want to leave him. My question to her is, why not? She deserves better.

I am a cancer survivor who was diagnosed with breast cancer seven months after I was married. Prior to my decision to have a radical mastectomy, I offered my husband the chance to leave. (After all, one doesn't expect "worse" to come so soon after the wedding.) The prospect of children, which we had discussed and was important to us, was uncertain because of my subsequent chemotherapy. My husband didn't hesitate. He said, "You would not leave me. We will adopt."

On our first wedding anniversary I was bald, and he treated me to a beautiful, romantic getaway. Although I did have reconstruction, it was a long process. He was supportive from day one.

Fifteen years later, I was diagnosed with breast cancer again. I had another radical mastectomy followed by chemo and reconstruction. Abby, my husband again made me feel beautiful even when I didn't. There are men out there who define a woman not by the size of her breasts, but by the beauty of her heart.

SURVIVOR IN NATICK, MASS.

DEAR SURVIVOR: I want to thank you and the many breast cancer survivors who wrote me—and their supportive spouses—for telling me your personal stories. Readers, I am printing this to remind you that October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Read on:

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I had to write to "Anonymous." I kept hoping my husband of 20 years would change his mind and accept my new body. However, because he could not, I chose to divorce him and it liberated me.

At first, I felt that if the one person who was supposed to care couldn't look at me, then no other man would either. I was wrong. After five years of dating, I never once encountered a man who was as insensitive as my husband had been. I have now found the man of my dreams.

In some respects, my "medical adventures," as I refer to them, were the best thing that ever happened. They enabled me to see my ex for who he really was, and find a man who truly IS a man.

GOT A NEW SET AND A NEW LIFE

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Breast cancer doesn't ruin your life unless you let it.

I am 66 years old. When I was in high school, my mom had a breast removed. My parents and I just took it in stride. It didn't define us. Dad adored her.

Mom would come in dressed up for whatever reason and ask, "Am I even?" because the "falsies" then were made of foam and were lightweight. She kept the vacation money pinned to it. She made a few new friends faint when she used it as a pin cushion. Dad died at 90, and Mom died the following year.

Mom could have helped "Anonymous." She would have cut her a slice of homemade pie, poured a cup of coffee, sat down at the table and just talked to her. Women need other women. "Anonymous" should find a friend who has gone through the same thing and talk and pray. She needs both.

EARLENE IN TEXAS

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My wife went through a lumpectomy, chemotherapy, then radiation. During that time she went to work every day, except when she had a treatment.

Of course, I have a visual reminder of what she went through when we share an intimate moment, but she has had to deal with it every day of her life since then. When I see her scar, I think about how strong she was going through that difficult period of time. Rather than drive us apart, it has brought us closer together than I ever thought possible.

HUSBAND OF A BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

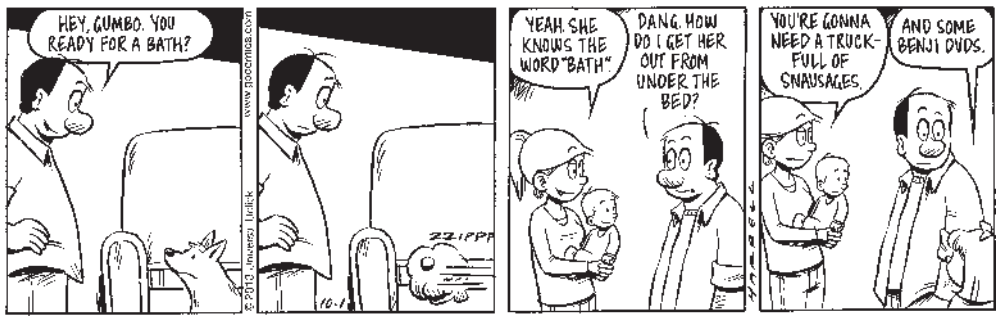
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

I WENT TO THE DOCTOR TODAY
HE TOLD ME TO LOSE A FEW POUNDS
HOW ABOUT A LITTLE SYMPATHY, HERE?
I'M WEEPING ON THE INSIDE
JIM DAVIS 10-1

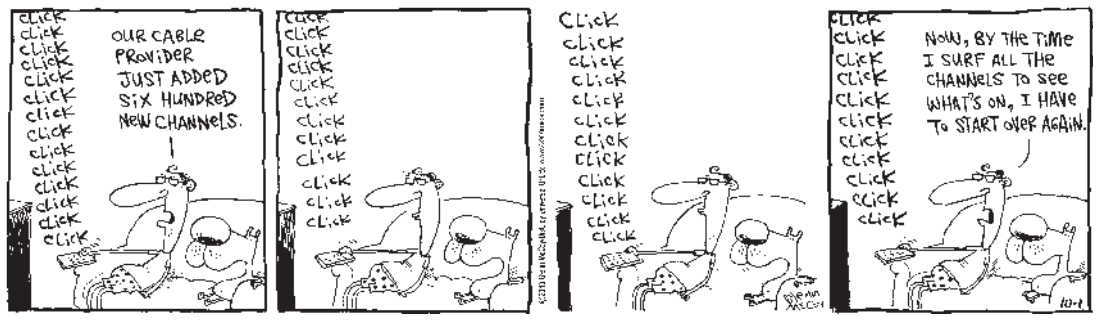
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HEY, GUMBO. YOU READY FOR A BATH?
YEAH. SHE KNOWS THE WORD "BATH"
DANG. HOW DO I GET HER OUT FROM UNDER THE BED?
YOU'RE GONNA NEED A TRUCK-FULL OF SNAUSAGES.
AND SOME BENJI DVDS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


OUR CABLE PROVIDER JUST ADDED SIX HUNDRED NEW CHANNELS.
NOW, BY THE TIME I SURF ALL THE CHANNELS TO see WHAT'S ON, I HAVE TO START OVER AGAIN.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

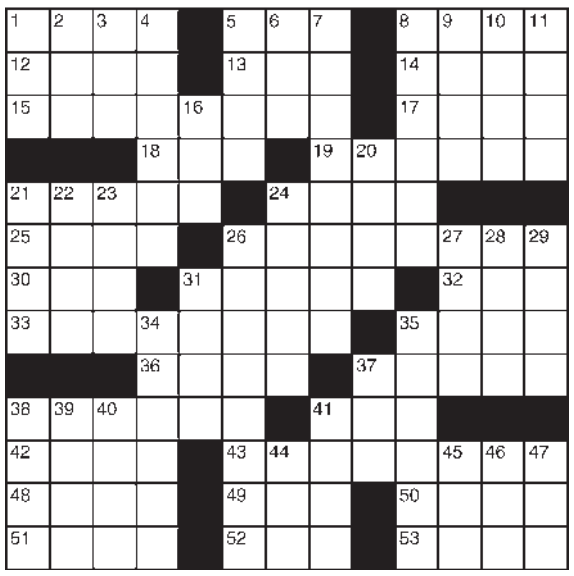
ACROSS
1 Taboo action
5 Not vert.
8 Mark a ballot
12 Basin accessory
13 Shock partner
14 Very enthusiastic
15 Defensive sports strategy
17 Enticement
18 That girl
19 Shrewdness
21 Rural house, maybe
24 Ballet bend
25 Still unpaid
26 Too bright
30 Kiwi's extinct kin
31 Sedative, for short
32 Two-finger gesture
33 Obviously embarrassed
35 Brewer's oven
36 "Darn!"
37 Quests
38 Psychiatrist, slangily
41 Tool set
42 Horse's foot
43 Boon
48 Touch
49 Nay opposer
50 Great Lake
51 Connect the —
52 Sawbuck
53 Confess

DOWN
1 Beak
2 Hooter
3 "The Matrix" role
4 Corsage flower
5 It grows on you
6 Possess
7 Treating to a feast
8 Prized
9 Egg
10 Grow weary
11 Paradise
16 Barbie's companion
20 Five in France
21 Barbershop tool
22 Off base, in a way
23 Suitor
24 Pirate ship feature
26 Insult
27 Terrible guy?
28 Egg container
29 Understands
31 Subsequently
34 Changes gears
35 Beginning
37 Part of H.R.H.
38 Roe provider
39 Vagrant
40 Decisive defeat
41 Sharp
44 Caustic solution
45 Anger
46 Zero
47 Salon product

Solution time: 21 mins.

J	U	G		I	R	E	N	E		M	A	S
A	V	I		D	F	M	O	N		A	L	F
M	A	N	N	E	Q	U	I	N		N	O	N
			E	A	U		S	E	E	D	E	D
G	A	M	B	L	E		Y	A	Y	A		
A	L	A		S	S	T		D	E	T	E	R
I	S	N	T		T	O	M		S	O	R	E
L	O	T	U	S		Y	O	U		R	N	A
		I	C	E	D		U	N	D	Y	E	D
B	A	C	K	E	R		T	W	O			
A	G	O		M	A	N	H	A	T	T	A	N
H	U	R		E	M	E	E	H		A	D	O
S	E	E		D	A	D	D	Y		J	A	W

Yesterday's answer 10-1



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zach Galifianakis, 44; Esai Morales, 51; Randy Quaid, 63; Julie Andrews, 78.

Happy Birthday: Stand up for your rights, but use diplomacy to get what you want. Adapting to the inevitable changes that come your way will be crucial. Emotional deception when dealing with children or those trying to take advantage of you must be recognized and dealt with carefully. Honesty and discipline will help you find your way to a better life and future. Your numbers are 2, 10, 21, 23, 37, 40, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Obstacles may appear to be insurmountable, but if you take an unusual route, you will bypass the setbacks standing in your way. Intelligence and ingenuity coupled with taking action and making things happen will lead to your success. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Participate in events that interest people of all ages and backgrounds. Tolerance and understanding will help you reach a goal that may not have been possible without the help of so many unique contributions. Love will take an unusual twist. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): It will be difficult to pacify others even if you do give in to demands. Concentrate on what you need to accomplish first. Idle chatter will not get the work done or appease those looking for help or results. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Go to where the action is and step into the limelight. Your charm, intelligence and expressive way of dealing with others will result in new connections. Romance is in the stars, along with greater opportunity. Children will have an impact on you. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): It will be difficult to know which way to turn. You'll be asked questions, and solutions will be expected. A confident approach coupled with expertise, compromise and adaptability will win the respect of your peers. Don't start fights; put them to rest. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Make financial changes that help you engage in pastimes you enjoy. A trip or course that will enable you to raise your earning potential will also bring you in contact with interesting individuals who have something to contribute to your plans. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You'll be caught in the middle of a situation that cannot be resolved without you. Do your best not to let situations get blown out of proportion when what's required is a quick fix with as little interference as possible. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Keep whatever you do simple and to the point. Promote and present what you have to offer in such a way that you come across as mysterious but knowledgeable. Keep the drama to a minimum and let the intrigue build slowly. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Step outside your comfort zone if it will help you resolve an issue that is holding you back. Getting along with people will be dependent upon what you promise and how much of it you deliver. Prepare to go the distance. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't let financial implications stand between you and your success. Focus on what you have to offer and discuss your intentions with someone who has the clout and the backing to help you. What you give away will be worth the returns. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let confusion take over. The conversations you have with others might not be pertinent to your situation. You have to decide what works best for you and follow through. Don't feel obligated to do the same as everyone else. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Share your creative ideas and use your imagination when trying to get others to lend a helping hand. Your charisma will invite new friendships, partnerships and the chance to make a commitment that will help you advance. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charming and entertaining. You are dedicated and determined.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				7				
		2					1	
	7	6	3		9			
		3	2	4		7		
4			9		7			6
		8		3	1	5		
			5		6	3	8	
	5					2		
				8				

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	2	1	9	5	7	3	6	8
8	5	9	3	4	6	2	7	1
3	6	7	1	8	2	4	5	9
9	3	2	6	7	4	8	1	5
6	1	8	5	2	3	9	4	7
7	4	5	8	9	1	6	2	3
2	8	6	7	1	9	5	3	4
1	9	3	4	6	5	7	8	2
5	7	4	2	3	8	1	9	6

Difficulty Level ★ 9/25

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FINGERNAIL ART Solution: 7 letters

S	P	S	G	O	L	D	D	N	A	H	E	E	R	F
Y	D	E	L	L	S	H	D	E	R	U	T	X	E	T
T	N	U	N	E	U	A	E	D	I	S	C	A	N	R
N	D	I	T	S	B	E	C	E	L	R	T	E	E	H
I	R	L	H	S	E	A	A	K	A	H	C	A	E	I
A	A	B	B	S	E	L	L	C	E	S	U	E	R	N
P	P	N	L	L	I	I	K	R	E	X	S	G	G	E
O	O	I	I	U	S	L	R	R	E	I	T	A	G	S
L	E	Ⓕ	N	M	E	C	O	O	A	M	O	T	R	T
K	L	Ⓤ	G	K	A	L	S	P	S	P	M	N	A	O
A	R	Ⓝ	A	R	F	L	E	L	L	S	S	I	P	N
D	O	W	T	S	W	O	B	A	E	I	E	V	H	E
O	L	O	F	L	A	G	S	Y	F	W	A	C	I	S
T	O	H	A	R	D	O	C	E	F	R	E	N	C	H
N	C	S	T	I	P	S	L	R	A	E	P	J	S	A

© 2013 Universal Uclick www.wonderwordcom Join us on Facebook 10/1

Accessories, Animal, Bling, Blue, Bows, Cartoon, Color, Crackle, Custom, Decal, Feather, File, Flags, Florescent, Freehand, French, Fun, Glue, Gold, Graphics, Green, Hard, Idea, Jewels, Labels, Layer, Leaf, Leopard, Logos, Mix, Nail Polish, Paint, Pearls, Pens, Pink, Polka-dot, Rhinestones, Shimmer, Shiny, Show, Silk, Sparkles, Star, Studs, Textured, Tips, Vintage

Yesterday's Answer: YouTube

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, volumes 27 and 31** call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universalclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

www.saipantribune.com

EMPLOYMENT

1-SEWER $5.55 email resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at jhocelyn_d@yahoo.com

2-Radiology Technologist (x-ray), $10.00/hr. 1 Accountant, $11.50/hr. Call Precision Medical Imaging, LLC Tel. #233-4582.

WANTED TO BUY

Yan Store buy broken game consoles, laptops, tablets, Smartphone's, cameras, cracked screens, and Power Tools. Call 287-6686 or 233-6687.

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Graphic Artist – Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience as Graphic Artist. Proficient in Illustrator/Photoshop CS5.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC. Tel.# 235-1680

X's Corp. X-Speed Auto Repair Shop
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Painter
(2) Mechanics
Salary: $5.55p/h
3 years working experience

Interested applicants may send resume to PMB 288 Box 10002, Saipan, MP 96950 or call (670) 235-8822

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

HOUSE FOR RENT

- Large recently renovated house
- 3 bedrooms, 2 full bath, study/exercise room
- Open designed kitchen/living room
- 2 cars garage with barbeque pit
- 2-3,000 gallon water tank
- All room (including bathroom) has ceiling fans,
- Window type aircon
- Roof newly painted with energy saving paint and newly painted exterior and all rooms inside
- House is partly furnished with new refrigerator, gas stove, and drapes

Located at Gualo Rai at a quiet, safe and secure location.
Contact 322-5547 or 322-5522

SAIPAN STEVEDORE COMPANY, INC.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

- STEVEDORES
- DIESEL MECHANIC
- HEAVY EQUIPMENT ELECTRICIAN/MECHANIC

Opening Date: October 01, 2013
Closing Date: October 03, 2013

Interested applicant may submit resume or pick-up application at Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc. office or email to saisteve@pticom.com

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2013-CDA-05-RFP
Submission Date: October 16, 2013 Time: 10:00 a.m.

"BROWNFIELDS MARKET FEASIBILITY STUDY"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular business hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 13-053

Opening Date: Tuesday, October 01, 2013
Closing Date: Monday, October 14, 2013

Trades Assistant
(Wastewater Division)

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the division manager or his/her designee. Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in service area assigned, Performs preventative maintenance on equipment in service area assigned, Assists with various construction related duties in service area assigned, Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, Cleans up, gathers and puts away equipment, materials and supplies for activities/projects, Assisting in repairing pumps and motors; Performing preventive maintenance on pump stations; Assisting in cleaning manholes and sewer lines; Performing grounds maintenance activities; Cleaning float switches; Monitoring and recording logs for disposal at the treatment plant or for pump stations; Assisting in performing system adjustments; Inventorying materials and supplies and Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: $6.05 per hour.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

POSITION(S): Four (4).

Minimum Requirements: High School diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) or Adult School (AS) diploma through the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program. Knowledge of: Basic preventative maintenance principles; Basic mathematics. Skills in: Performing preventative maintenance; Performing basic maintenance; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a CNMI driver's license or one from a U.S. jurisdiction. Pre-employment drug testing required.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting individuals to apply for the following position:

Legal Secretary

Duties & Responsibilities:
Works primarily with attorneys in setting up case files, keep case files current, and file pleadings with both Superior Court and U.S. District Court of the N.M.I. Accurately calendars court hearings and trials, monitor deadlines and track cases through the justice system; draft and proof read correspondences, photocopy, fax, print, use telephone techniques, e-mail use, and file.

Job Requirements:
Knowledge: Of law office practice (preferably litigation), familiarity with Superior Court and District Court procedures and legal terminology.

Equipment Skills: Use various office equipment including telephone, fax machine, copier, printer, computer, and occasionally a manual typewriter.

Software Skills: Proficient with word processing (preferably Microsoft Office Word) and Microsoft Outlook. Knowledge of Excel is beneficial.

Ability: To type at least 40 wpm (no errors); multi-task; be well organized; maintain a professional disposition; focus and concentrate in a stressful environment with heavy workloads and strict timelines; work independently and self-directed; maintain strict confidentiality; communicate effectively orally and in writing; follow verbal and written instructions; possess good interpersonal skills and establish effective working relationships with law enforcement, fellow employees, supervisors and the public; use proper sentence structure, punctuation, grammar and spelling; proof reading; accuracy; and attention to detail.

Required Qualifications:
To be considered for the position, applicants must have a high school diploma (or GED) and four (4) years secretarial or clerical experience with demonstrated competency in records management, word processing, and other routing office tasks requiring application of working level computer skills. Applicants with an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, October 08, 2013.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper

Call 235-NEWS

Saipan Tribune
Over 100 food stamp vouchers on hold
Opinion
Even despots don't live forever
The fragrance of war
Focus
More US Catholics take complaints to church court
Campus Life
KagHS JROTC does well in drill competition
GCA's January forensic winners

WHATZIT Solution: On the warpath

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

PATH
WWII

WHATZIT? © 2013 www.whatzit.com Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Rays, Rangers force AL wild-card tiebreaker

ARLINGTON, Texas — Texas forced a 1-game tie-breaker for the second AL wild-card spot, winning its seventh straight when Geovany Soto hit a tie-breaking RBI double and later homered to beat Los Angeles.

The Rangers (91-71) added game No. 163 to the regular season and will host Tampa Bay tonight. The winner plays two days later at wild-card leader Cleveland in another win-or-be-done matchup.

About the same time Tampa Bay wrapped up its 7-6 win at Toronto to necessitate a victory by the Rangers to keep playing, Craig Gentry hit a 2-run single in the fifth for a 2-1 lead.

Los Angeles quickly tied the game against major-league strikeout leader Yu Darvish in the sixth but the Rangers went ahead to stay in the bottom half on Soto's 2-out double.

Adrian Beltre and Soto added solo homers in the eighth.

Rays 7, Blue Jays 6

In Toronto, Evan Longoria and Tampa Bay assured the Rays would tie for an AL wild-card berth, scoring six runs in the first inning and then holding off Toronto.

Longoria hit an RBI double as the Rays used their highest-scoring first inning since 2010 to go ahead early. Tampa Bay took a 7-0 lead into the sixth before Toronto rallied.

Rays manager Joe Maddon was ejected in the seventh and the Blue Jays put the go-ahead run at the plate in the eighth and ninth innings. Fernando Rodney got four shaky outs for his 37th save in 45 chances.

Orioles 7, Red Sox 6

In Baltimore, Ryan Flaherty had two hits subbing for Chris Davis after baseball's home run champ left with a sprained wrist as Baltimore wrapped up its season with a victory over playoff-bound Boston.

Flaherty hit an RBI single in a 5-run fifth and a run-scoring double when the Orioles took the lead for good in the sixth.

Davis was hurt in the fourth inning when his arm got in the way of Jacoby Ellsbury on a play at first. The player who accepted the Orioles' MVP award before the game walked off to a standing ovation, finishing tops in the majors in both homers (53) and RBIs (138).

Yankees 5, Astros 1, 14 innings

In Houston, Mark Reynolds hit a tie-breaking homer in a 4-run 14th inning and New York went into an offseason of uncertainty with a victory over Houston, whose 15-game losing streak was the longest at the end of the season in more than a century.

Mariano Rivera didn't pitch in the final game of a career that started in 1995. He thanked the fans — just as he's done in every other city that honored the retiring New York Yankees closer this year.

Then he threw in something a little different Sunday: an apology.

Rivera was honest about why he skipped the final three games of his career. It just couldn't get any better than Thursday night in Yankee Stadium, when baseball's career saves leader wept on the shoulder of Andy Pettitte.

Royals 4, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Bruce Chen pitched 4-hit ball into the seventh inning and Kansas City beat Chicago to finish off its best season in 24 years.

The Royals' 86-76 record was their best mark since they went 92-70 in 1989.

Chen's sharp outing put a damper on what might have been the final major-league game for White Sox captain Paul Konerko, who is eligible for free agency and isn't sure if he will play again next year. The veteran first baseman is second in franchise history with 427 homers and 1,361 RBIs and third with 2,249 hits.

Chen (9-4) allowed one run, struck out four and walked three in 6 2/3 innings.

Athletics 9, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Sonny Gray threw five shutout innings and Oakland had a pair of 4-run innings to close out the regular season with a win over Seattle in Eric Wedge's final game as Mariners manager.

The A's now turn their attention to the AL Division Series against Detroit that will begin Friday in Oakland, while Seattle (71-91) enters the offseason with another managerial search on the docket after a 12th straight season without the making the playoffs.

Chris Young got Oakland started with a 2-run single in the second, followed by RBI doubles by Seth Smith and Brandon Moss.

AP

Tampa Rays shortstop Yunel Escobar, left, and first baseman James Loney celebrate after turning an inning-ending double play during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays in Toronto, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013.

Indians 5, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, the surging Cleveland Indians earned their first postseason berth since 2007, beating the Minnesota Twins 5-1 Sunday to clinch an AL wild card as Ubaldo Jimenez tied a career high with 13 strikeouts.

Nick Swisher homered in the first inning for the Indians, who became the first major league team to win its final 10 regular-season games since the 1971 Baltimore Orioles finished with 11 straight victories, according to STATS.

Cleveland will host Tampa Bay or Texas in the one-game AL wild-card playoff on Wednesday night.

Marlins 1, Tigers 0

In Miami, Henderson Alvarez pitched a no-hitter with a most bizarre ending, celebrating in the on-deck circle when the Miami Marlins scored on a 2-out wild pitch in the bottom of the ninth inning to beat the AL Central champion Detroit Tigers 1-0 Sunday.

After Alvarez finished off the ninth with the game scoreless, he had to wait to see if it would become an official no-hitter. A Major League Baseball ruling in 1991 said only complete games of nine or more innings with no hits would count.

Rockies 2, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Michael Cuddyer won his first batting title and Todd Helton singled in the final game of his career to help the Colorado Rockies beat the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The NL West champion Dodgers will open the NL division series at Atlanta on Thursday but announced they won't have centerfielder Matt Kemp in the postseason because of swelling in a bone in his left ankle.

Cuddyer went 1-for-5 and finished at .331 to win the title by 10 points over Atlanta's Chris Johnson.

Braves 12, Phillies 5

In Atlanta, Evan Gattis had a 2-run homer among his three hits, Elliot Johnson drove in five runs and the NL East champion Atlanta Braves beat Philadelphia.

The Braves (96-66) won their first division title since 2005, finishing with its best record since also winning 96 games in 2004.

Julio Teheran (14-8) allowed four runs in five innings. Zach Miner (0-2) gave up five runs on seven hits and three in only 2 1/3 innings.

Cardinals 4, Cubs 0

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter and the St. Louis Cardinals clinched home-field advantage throughout the National League playoffs when they beat the Chicago Cubs for their sixth straight win.

With the top seed, the NL Central champions will host the wild-card winner in Game 1 of the best-of-5 division series on Thursday.

Joe Kelly (10-5) pitched 5 1/3 innings of 3-hit ball. The Cardinals finished 97-65, their most since reaching 100 in 2005.

Giants 7, Padres 6

In San Francisco, Hunter Pence singled home the winning run with no outs in the ninth inning to lift the San Francisco Giants over San Diego.

Francisco Peguero hit his first career home run leading off the ninth to tie it as Huston Street (2-5) blew his second save in 35 chances.

Pence drove in three runs. Jedd Gyorko hit a grand slam for the Padres and Nick Hundley homered.

Sergio Romo (5-8) pitched the ninth for the win.

Diamondbacks 3, Nationals 2

In Phoenix, A.J. Pollock beat out a run-scoring infield single in the eighth inning and the Arizona Diamondbacks sent Washington manager Davey Johnson into retirement with a loss.

The Diamondbacks scratched out a pair of runs off Ryan Mattheus (0-2) in the eighth to finish the season at 81-81.

Mets 3, Brewers 2

In New York, Eric Young Jr. won the NL stolen base crown and helped the New York Mets rally when Milwaukee botched two bunts in the eighth inning.

Young swiped two bases in the first, scored on a shallow sacrifice fly and later threw out a runner at the plate from left field. He began the day tied for the NL lead in steals at 44 with Milwaukee shortstop Jean Segura, who sat out for the 10th time in 11 games because of a strained right hamstring.

Heat signs Spoelstra to multiyear extension

MIAMI (AP)—Erik Spoelstra has been with the Miami Heat for nearly two decades, and their relationship won't be ending anytime soon.

Spoelstra has signed a multiyear extension to remain as coach of the two-time defending NBA champion Heat, the team said Sunday afternoon. The move comes one day after the Heat announced several other front-office moves, including promoting Andy Elisburg to general manager and hiring Juwan Howard as an assistant coach.

A person familiar with the talks between the sides, speaking on condition of anonymity earlier Sunday because the deal had not been announced, told The Associated Press that the Heat has never had any intention of letting Spoelstra go. He had one season remaining on his existing contract, a deal that the sides agreed to in 2011.

"I want Spo here for a long, long time," Heat President Pat Riley said last season.

Spoelstra is 260-134 in his first five seasons with Miami, going to the playoffs in each of those years, the NBA finals in each of the last three and winning the title in 2012 and 2013. His resume suggests that he's already well on a Hall of Fame path: Only 12 other men in NBA history multiple championships as a coach, and only seven others have collected rings in back-to-back years.

He's won while helping LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh not only figure out ways to play with one another, but having each of those stars change their game to make everything fit within the Heat system.

Last season may have been Spoelstra's best coaching job.

The Heat rolled through the regular season, winning 27 straight games at one point on the way to a 66-16 record. Then in the playoffs, Miami had to rally from a 1-0 second-round deficit against Chicago and ultimately had to grind out seven-game victories over Indiana in the Eastern Conference finals and San Antonio in the NBA Finals.

"What's overlooked for him is the management of the team," Wade told AP last season. "It's not the coaching part of it. It's, 'Can you manage these egos, these personalities, without having one your damn self?' He's done it."

Yahoo Sports first reported that Spoelstra and the Heat were nearing a new deal. The Heat power structure remains largely unchanged, even after Elisburg—a Heat original employee—was promoted to GM and the hiring of Howard was part of a slight reshuffling of Spoelstra's staff. Riley remains president, Nick Arison remains CEO and Micky Arison remains managing general partner of a team that has not fired a head coach since parting ways with Kevin Loughery in February 1995.

Miami's annual media day is Monday. The team's first two training-camp practices of the new season take place Tuesday in the Bahamas.

Hired as a video coordinator by the Heat in 1995, Spoelstra's rise through the ranks has been well-chronicled.

He was a scout, an assistant coach, a key part of Stan Van Gundy's staff in Miami and then started becoming considered Riley's protege not long after Van Gundy stepped down 21 games into what became a championship season for the Heat in 2005-06.

Manning leads Broncos' historic win vs Eagles

DENVER (AP)—Peyton Manning threw four touchdown passes and the Denver Broncos scored more points than they ever had in their 54-year history on Sunday, blowing out the Eagles 52-20.

With two TD passes each to Demaryius Thomas and Wes Welker, Manning completed all but a half dozen of his 34 throws for 327 yards.

Just another day in the life of Manning, whose 16 TD passes are the most in the first month of a season, beating the previous mark of 14 set by Don Meredith in 1966 and matched by Kurt Warner in 1999.

Manning also joined Milt Plum in 1960 as the only quarterbacks to throw that many touchdown passes without an interception.

The Broncos have piled up 49, 41, 37 and 52 points in their opening four wins, thanks mostly to Manning, who's off to the best start of his career and helped Denver outgain Michael Vick and the Eagles 472 yards to 450.

Matt Prater's 53-yard field goal capped Denver's 15th straight regular-season win, which beat the club mark of 14 set in 1997-98 and also broke the previous club scoring record of 50 points set against San Diego on Oct. 6, 1963.

AP

Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning is sacked by Philadelphia Eagles' Cedric Thornton late in the second quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013, in Denver.

Seahawks 23, Texans 20

In Houston, Steven Hauschka kicked a 45-yard field goal in overtime to give the Seattle Seahawks a 23-20 win over the Houston Texans on Sunday and the first 4-0 start in the club's history.

Houston (2-2) failed to score on two possessions in overtime. The Seahawks got the win on their second drive in overtime after rallying from a 20-3 deficit.

A key play on the winning drive came when Doug Baldwin caught a 7-yard pass and Kareem Jackson was penalized for unnecessary roughness for dumping him into the ground. That got Seattle in field goal range and Hauschka's kick came four plays later.

Patriots 30, Falcons 23

In Atlanta, Tom Brady threw for 316 yards and two touchdowns and New England held off a furious Atlanta comeback, beating the Falcons to improve to 4-0 for the first time since their near-perfect season in 2007.

New England built a 30-13 lead before the Falcons rallied.

They had a chance to tie it up in the final minute, but Matt Ryan's fourth-down pass went off the hands of Roddy White in the end zone with 36 seconds remaining.

The Patriots seemed in control when LeGarrette Blount scored on a 47-yard run, and Brady threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to rookie Kenbrell Thompkins.

Lions 40, Bears 32

In Detroit, Reggie Bush's 37-yard touchdown run helped Detroit score 27 points in the second quarter and he accounted for 173 yards of offense to help the Lions beat Chicago.

Detroit (3-1) moved into a first-place tie with Chicago (3-1) in the NFC North. The Lions scored 24 straight points, including three TDs in a span of 3 minutes, 26 second, after Matt Forte's 53-yard TD run gave the Bears 10-6 lead early in the second quarter.

Vikings 34, Steelers 27

In London, Greg Jennings made two touchdown catches, Adrian Peterson ran for two scores and the Vikings' defense made a big stop with time running out to preserve a win over the Steelers.

Playing at Wembley Stadium, Everson Griffen stripped Ben Roethlisberger on the 6-yard line with 19 seconds left. Kevin Williams recovered to seal the victory.

Jennings made a 70-yard catch-and-run for a touchdown and Peterson had a 60-yard score to help offset two scores by Pittsburgh rookie running back Le'Veon Bell and give Minnesota (1-3) some hope of turning its season around.

Chargers 31, Cowboys 20

In San Diego, Philip Rivers threw for 401 yards and three touchdowns, including a 56-yarder to Antonio Gates.

The Chargers (2-2) had blown late leads in their two losses this season. On Sunday, they scored the final 20 points to beat Dallas (2-2).

Rivers short-armed a pass over the middle to Gates, who slid behind linebacker Sean Lee to haul it in and score with 6:54 to go.

Titans 38, Jets 13

In Nashville, Jake Locker threw a career-high three touchdowns before being taken to the hospital with an injured right hip. Locker was hurt early in the third quarter when hit first by Muhammad Wilkerson after throwing an incomplete pass, then popped by Quinton Coples. He grabbed at his hip as he went to the ground and was carted off the field before being loaded into an ambulance. The Titans had no immediate word on the severity of his injury.

Alterraun Verner intercepted two passes and recovered a fumble, Karl Klug sacked Geno Smith and stripped him of the ball for a TD as the Titans turned Smith's four turnovers into 28 points.

Redskins 24, Raiders 14

In Oakland, Robert Griffin III threw a go-ahead touchdown pass late in the third quarter to help Washington overcome an early 14-point deficit for its first win of the season.

David Amerson returned an interception for another score for the Redskins (1-3).

Washington looked ready to extend the worst start for the franchise since 2001 when they fell behind 14-0 after the first quarter thanks to a blocked punt touchdown and a scoring pass from Matt Flynn.

Bills 23, Ravens 20

In Orchard Park, Buffalo rookie linebacker Kiko Alonso's second interception of the game with 57 seconds remaining sealed a win over Baltimore.

Converted safety Aaron Williams also intercepted Joe Flacco twice, while Fred Jackson had 87 yards rushing and a touchdown for Buffalo (2-2).

Robert Woods scored on a 42-yard touchdown reception. Buffalo totaled 203 yards rushing against a stout Ravens defense that had allowed just 224 in its first three games.

Cardinals 13, Buccaneers 10

In Tampa Bay, Carson Palmer threw a 13-yard touchdown pass to Larry Fitzgerald, then Jay Feely kicked a 27-yard field goal with 1:29 remaining as Arizona rallied to beat Tampa Bay.

Patrick Peterson had two interceptions, one setting up Arizona's first TD in six quarters, the other to ruin any chance of rookie Mike Glennon pulling off a comeback in his first NFL start for the winless Bucs (0-4).

Browns 17, Bengals 6

In Cleveland, Brian Hoyer threw two touchdown passes in his first start at home to lead the Browns to a win over Cincinnati.

Hoyer's 1-yard TD pass to Chris Ogbonnaya with 4:54 left gave the Browns (2-2) an 11-point lead and Cleveland turned it over to its vastly improved defense.

In his second start in place of injured Brandon Weeden, Hoyer finished 25 of 38 for 269 yards. He threw a 2-yard TD pass in the first half to Jordan Cameron, who had 10 catches for 91 yards.

Chiefs 31, Giants 7

In Kansas City, Alex Smith threw three touchdown passes, Dexter McCluster returned a punt 89 yards for another score and unbeaten Kansas City kept New York winless.

Smith hit touchdown passes of 4, 2 and 35 yards for the Chiefs (4-0), who under Andy Reid have already doubled their victory total of 2012. They are the second team to go from a two-win season to 4-0 the next year.

Colts 37, Jaguars 3

In Jacksonville, Andrew Luck threw two touchdown passes, Trent Richardson ran for a score and Indianapolis became the latest team to beat Jacksonville by double digits.

The Colts (3-1) weren't all that good, especially early in the first half, but they were plenty good against one of the worst teams in the league.

Indianapolis led 20-3 at halftime—Jacksonville (0-4) has been outscored 75-8 in the first half this season—and made it a laugher with consecutive touchdown drives in the third quarter.

USC fires Lane Kiffin; Orgeron is interim coach

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lane Kiffin triumphantly flew in from Tennessee nearly four years ago as the unlikely choice to extend Southern California's football renaissance.

When Kiffin's Trojans trudged home to that same airport early Sunday morning after another loss, athletic director Pat Haden couldn't wait another minute to end the divisive coach's tumultuous tenure.

USC fired Kiffin hours after a 62-41 loss at Arizona State that dropped the Trojans to 3-2 overall and 0-2 in the Pac-12. The loss was the seventh in 11 games for a powerhouse program still struggling under the cumulative effect of NCAA sanctions, but unwilling to accept such a dramatic decline.

''It's never the perfect time to do these things, but I thought it was the right time," Haden said.

Ed Orgeron will be USC's interim head coach for the final eight games of the season before Haden chooses a permanent successor for one of college football's highest-profile jobs. Orgeron, Kiffin's assistant head coach and top recruiter, is the former Mississippi head coach.

Haden broke the news to Kiffin in a 3 a.m. meeting at the Trojans' private airport terminal, but not before a 45-minute chat in which Kiffin tried to change Haden's mind. Haden didn't hire Kiffin, but had been firmly behind the coach in public until Saturday, when the Trojans matched the most points allowed in school history.

''He did a lot of things well under some very difficult circumstances here," said Haden, who also fired men's basketball coach Kevin O'Neill during the season last January. ''No one could have worked harder. He did a lot of the things we asked. Graduated players, never had compliance issues ... and he really worked under some very difficult NCAA sanctions, there's no doubt about it."

Kiffin ran a competent program despite the loss of 30 scholarships over a three-season stretch that ends in 2015. But even Kiffin acknowledged he wasn't winning enough in the last two seasons at a school with USC's pedigree, and he also created off-the-field troubles ranging from ethically questionable tactics to pointless squabbles with media.

"Lane did negotiate some of these things remarkably well," Haden said. ''I have supported Lane with my heart and soul for 3 1/2 years and gave him every opportunity. He wasn't given a fair hand in a lot of ways. I said all along, we graded on the curve, but we failed on the curve, too."

The Trojans are off this week before returning Oct. 10 at the Coliseum against Arizona, giving Orgeron time to evaluate what can be done to salvage the season with the toughest matchups on USC's schedule still looming.

Bandits barge into win column of DL Corp. caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Bandits quickly made it to the win column of the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League after dominating I Love Saipan, 76-61, last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The Bandits-I Love Saipan tiff was the second match in the opening day of the second edition of the 16-team league and the former joined defending champion Adobo in the winner's circle after earning the 15-point victory.

Big men Jun Alipio and McLain Achas helped the Bandits cruise past I Love Saipan, as they used their advantage on ceiling to pound the much shorter and inexperienced frontliners of I Love Saipan. I Love Saipan's players are its employees and majority of them are first time participants in an organized league.

Though its players do not have much talent compared to the Bandits crew, I Love Saipan managed to keep up with its foe in the first half, falling behind by only 5, 24-29. Bryan Lontoc and Mike Olaitiman, the only two I Love Saipan players who have experience in a competitive league, teamed up in the first half to keep their team afloat. The Bandits, on the other hand, leaned on the inside baskets of Alipio and McLain, who combined for 18 points.

The Bandits then gained more cushion in the second half, as Art Salazar finally found his rhythm and scored 9 points in the third, including the team's first 6 markers. After Salazar's string of points, the Bandits went on to earn several points (10) from the foul line to take a 56-43 advantage, entering the final canto.

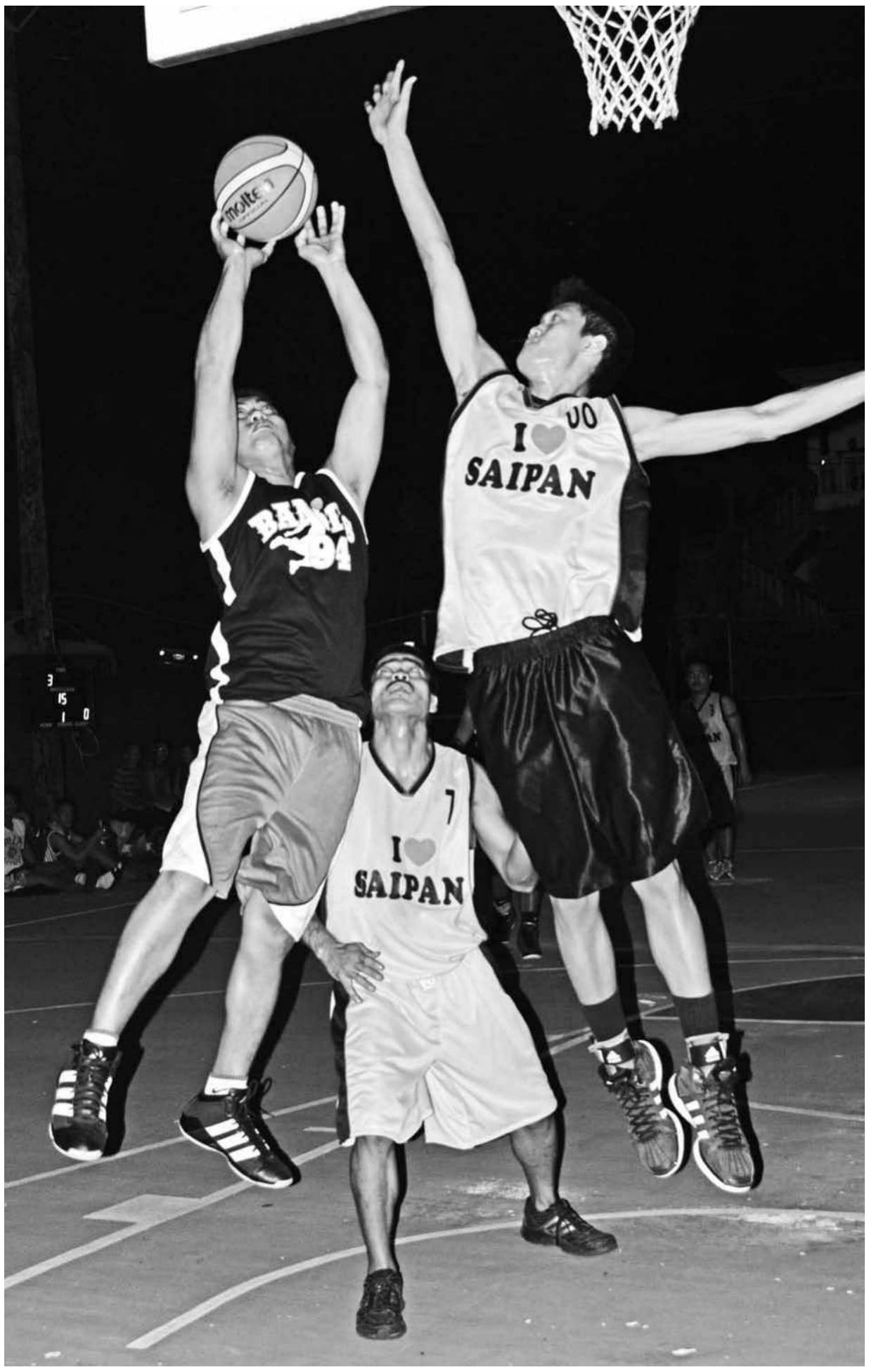
The Bandits retained the double-digit lead in the fourth, as Alipio and Achas delivered the killer blows, teaming up for 12 more points after going scoreless in the third period. Alipio finished with 14 points, while Achas added 12. Salazar had 13, while Eugene Manglona contributed 12.

I Love Saipan failed to mount a comeback in the fourth, as it could not get the right combination on the floor. Bryan Mendoza top-scored for I Love Saipan with his 14 markers, but most of his points came when the game was already out of their hands.

Bandits 76 – Alipio 14, Salazar 13, Achas 12, Manglona 12, Pineda 9, Delos Reyes 6, Odicta 6.

I Love Saipan 61 – Mendoza 14, Manglona 12, Olaitiman 11, Cristobal 6, Mamaril 4, Camacho 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-10, 29-24, 56-43, 76-61.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Bandits' McLain Achas goes up for a shot against I Love Saipan's Leonardo Cristobal during the first quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

DEGREE

From Page 28

the third and failing to recover in the fourth canto.

Ocampo tormented Armatech with his patented pull-up short jumpers and finished with a game-high 23 markers. At one point in the second canto, the Degree shooting forward cashed in on five straight jumpers and his 14 markers in that period prevented an Armatech breakaway, as his team only faced a 9-point deficit at halftime, 28-37.

Armatech had its best offensive game in the second frame before suffering a major breakdown in the third quarter where it scored only two field goals and 4 points. Only Bruce Berline and Jojo Detera made it to the board for Armatech in the third period. Degree then countered Armatech's offensive meltdown with a balance scoring, as Ocampo drilled 6 more points and four of his teammates contributed at least 3 points apiece.

By the end of the third quarter, Degree had already taken the driver's seat from Armatech, 46-41, and the former went on to cruise to its first win of the season. Ocampo failed to hit his mark in the final canto, but his teammates step up to complete the come-from-behind win.

Ferdie Tobias and Ed Cosino joined Ocampo on the list of double figure scorers for Degree with the team's quarterback adding 13 points and the squad's center chipping in 11. Six other Degree players also scored in their debut win.

Martin Moreno paced Armatech with his 15 points, while Berline logged 11, but was held to one field goal in the entire second half. The rest of the members of the defending champion picked up garbage points.

Meanwhile, the second Masters game in the opening day will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Wednesday's edition.

Degree/UPAA 70 – Ocampo 23, Tobias 13, Cosino 11, Pablo 7, Drilon 5, De Guzman 4, Salazar 4, Valdez 3, De La Torre 2.

Armatech 56 – Moreno 15, Berline 11, Gabaldon 8, Montano 7, Detera 4, Crisostimo 4, Pineda 4, Ebuen 3.

Scoring by quarters: 10-9, 28-37, 46-41, 70-56.

TEEN

From Page 28

the team was able to pull it together in the second and created a couple of great chances to score. Unfortunately, that didn't happen and the boys will have their work cut out for them in the final game against Myanmar. The DPR Korea team is the favorite to win the competition and tonight (last Friday) they showed why it is so highly rated," team manager Wes Bogdan wrote in the squad's unofficial website.

No other details of the CNMI's match against Korea were provided, as only the list of starters was mentioned in the AFC website. Joshua Galarion was the goalkeeper for the Teen Ayuyus and was joined in the starting 11 by Kenneth Mafnas, Aaron Lee, David Yang, James David, Joel Fruit, Ivan Seo, William Hinson, Won Young Kim, Kennedy Izuka, and Diego Masga. Ryu Tanzawa, Jin Hiu Deng, and Ryan Relucio were the substitutes.

Versus Myanmar, Galarion was also the goalie for the Teen Ayuyus. Completing the starting roster were Masga, Izuka, Yang, Kim, Hinson, Fruit, Mafnas, Masga, Tanzawa, and Julian Pellegrino. Terrence Belcher, Reniel Relucio, and David came off the bench.

The CNMI held Myanmar past the halfway mark of the first half before Soe Moe Tun put the latter on the board with his goal in the 37th minute. Myanmar went on to get an own goal in the extended first half to take a 2-0 lead at the break.

YANKEES

From Page 28

ball in the fourth and earlier nailed an RBI double to give his team a 3-1 lead after four complete innings. The Padres added two more runs in the fifth with Lancaster Secharmidal stealing home and Jun Rabauliman scoring off an error from Dodgers catcher Cedric Camacho. Rabauliman then had an RBI single at the bottom of the sixth inning for the Padres' sixth and final run.

Jerald Cabrera gave the Dodgers their first run, as he also notched an RBI double in the third inning and then later stole home at the top of the sixth.

Braves 6, Cardinals 4

The Braves kept breathing on the Padres neck after recording their ninth win.

The Braves were steady in the first three innings, making three earned runs, while the Cardinals bungled a chance to score more at the top of the first.

Lucio Kalen handed the Braves their first run, reaching home off an error at first base at the bottom of the first, while A.J. Lizama hit an RBI double and also scored off a passed ball. Kalen increased the Braves' lead to 4-1, off his RBI double in the second, while Cody Kaipat also had an RBI double in the third and then reached home off shortstop Dave Matagolai's miscue in the third.

Aurel Mendiola broke the ice for the Cardinals, as he singled and then made it home off Joejoe Monkeya's single. The Cardinals later loaded the bases with two outs, but Braves starting pitcher Logan Martin struck out Jimmy Demapan.

The Cardinals then were without a run in the next two innings before saving two in the fourth off Matagolai's RBI single and the Braves error at centerfield. The Cardinals went cold anew in the next two and failed to extend the game when only Mendiola scored and Kaipat struck out Matagolai for the third out, leaving runners stranded on second and third.

2013 UFO-Budweiser Basketball League Opening

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Degree/UPAA players pose for a group photo during the opening of the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Masters and Open Division Basketball League last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

Representatives of Pacific Islands Club/NMBA pose for a photo.

Shakir Realty players pose for a group photo.

Five Blue Haus/SMF players join the parade.

Players of Masters defending champion Armatech/MDX pose with their muse Nicole Malasarte.

Hoopaholics players and coach Joe Diaz, front row left, pose for a photo.

Coach Sonny Flores, left, poses with his Degree players (open division).

Three players from Erika's Catering participate in the opening ceremony.

The respective muses of KB Market, Kanoa Resort, and Armatech pose for the judges.

I Love Ladder Beach players listen to the remarks of UFO president Annamae Adaza.

Manning leads Broncos' historic win vs Eagles

PAGE 25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Rays, Rangers force AL wild-card tiebreaker

PAGE 24

Yankees boost playoff chances

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Yankees kept the No. 4 spot in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League after nipping the Tigers, 4-3, last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Yankees scored the winning run at the bottom of the seventh inning with Darion Jones hitting the ball and dropping it a few feet away from second base. The Tigers' Perry Celis fumbled on his way to picking up the ball, allowing M.J. Sakisat to run to home plate.

Sakisat led off for the Yankees in the last inning and blasted a single to deep right field. He then made it to second base on a sacrifice out by second batter Roke Tenorio and ran to third off a wild pitch from Keene Deleon Guerrero.

With only one out and Sakisat on third, Jones stepped on the batter's box and came up with an empty swing on his first try. He then jumped off the plate to avoid a wild pitch from Deleon Guerrero before making contact on the bat in the next play.

With the close win, the Yankees improved to a 4-6 record, one win ahead of the Dodgers and Tigers, who are tied for fifth to sixth place in the team standings with their similar 3-6 markers. The Yankees need every win they could get in the final round of the elimination, as only the Top 4 teams in the seven-squad field will advance to the playoffs.

Padres 6, Dodgers 2

The Padres are assured of a playoff berth, as they kept the top spot, following a victory over the Dodgers in the first game last Saturday.

After failing to score in the first two innings, the Padres got into business in the last four to move up to a 9-1 record, half a game ahead of the Braves (9-2). Mike Muna put the Padres in the board, scoring on a passed ball in the third inning, while Khobby Kaipat also made it home off a passed

See YANKEES on Page 26

The Yankees' Roy Tudela waits for a pitch from the Tigers' Jose Lizama during the bottom of the sixth inning of their game in the Triple A league last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfiled.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Degree/UPAA's Alex Ocampo pulls up for a jumper against Armatech/MDX's Bruce Berline, right, and George Poquiz during the second quarter of their game in the Masters division of the UFO-Budweiser caging last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Teen Ayuyus complete AFC stint

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI U16 National Team players huddle at the pitch before the start of their game against Myanmar in the AFC U16 Qualifying Tournament last Sunday at the Hankou Culture and Sports Stadium in Wuhan, China.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI U16 National Team finished their assignments in the AFC U16 Qualifying Tournament over the weekend at the Hankou Culture and Sports Stadium in Wuhan, China.

The Teen Ayuyus challenged North Korea last Friday and fell, 0-18, and then returned to the pitch last Sunday and played better defense in their 0-5 loss to Myanmar.

Against North Korea, which eventually ruled the Group I qualifier to advance to the AFC U16 Championships in Thailand next year, the CNMI faced a 0-10 deficit after 45 minutes of play. Defensive adjustments were made in the second and final half and this time, North Korea did not able to score in twin digits, while the Teen Ayuyus managed to create some scoring opportunities.

"After a very disappointing first half,

See TEEN on Page 26

Degree draws first blood in UFO Masters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Degree/UPAA stunned defending champion Armatech/MDX, 70-56, in the first game in the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Masters Division Basketball League last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

Degree leaned on the streak shooting of Alex Ocampo to pull off the 14-point victory over Armatech, which was in control of the Masters opener in the first half before collapsing in

See DEGREE on Page 26